



CITY OF PLYMOUTH

1242-3,5

INTERIM REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1944



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PUBLIC HEALTH AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

The following Members of the City Council served on the Public Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during the year :—

Chairman : Alderman F. D. Baxter (to November), Alderman Sir Arthur Hollely, J.P. (from November).

Vice-Chairman : Councillor (Mrs.) L. Brock.

Aldermen (Mrs.) C. H. Daymond, H. Porter, (Mrs.) J. Marshall.
Councillors F. E. Chapman, A. H. Crimp, H. M. Medland (from November), C. Prance (from November), R. C. Ray (to November), S. Robins, R. A. Smith, F. E. Sparrow (to November) and H. E. Williams.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor (Mrs.) L. Brock.

Alderman (Mrs.) C. H. Daymond, H. Porter, (Mrs.) J. Marshall.
Councillors F. E. Chapman, C. Prance and H. E. Williams.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The Lord Mayor.

Chairman : Councillor E. S. Leatherby.

Vice-Chairman : Alderman R. R. Oke.

Aldermen J. L. Cornish, (Mrs.) C. H. Daymond and W. H. Weston.
Councillors F. J. Collier, F. G. Fleury, S. L. Gould, L. F. Paul, H. J. Perry, J.P., S. W. R. Pettett, H. G. Phillips, (Mrs.) J. Pook, S. C. Potter, G. P. Ross, H. S. Sangwell, R. A. Smith, L. W. Spear and A. L. Strachan, B.A.

Mrs. B. Bull, Mrs. C. R. Cload, Miss W. Drake and Mrs. Washbourn.

The Rev. J. O. Ellis, the Rev. J. H. McDonald and the Rev. R. J. W. Morris.

Messrs. S. Griffin, C. G. Palmer and R. A. Smith.

MEDICAL TREATMENT SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor H. J. Perry, J.P.

Alderman (Mrs.) C. H. Daymond.

Councillors S. L. Gould, E. S. Leatherby, L. F. Paul, H. G. Phillips, (Mrs.) J. Pook and G. P. Ross.

Mrs. C. R. Cload and Miss W. Drake.

The Rev. J. O. Ellis.

Messrs. C. G. Palmer and R. A. Smith.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

MEDICAL—WHOLE-TIME.

- T. Peirson, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health ; General Medical Superintendent, City Hospitals ; Port Medical Officer ; School Medical Officer.
- W. N. M. Mason, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health ; Senior Assistant Port Medical Officer ; Medical Superintendent, Mount Gold Hospital. (On active service.)
- T. H. Harrison, M.B., L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H., Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health ; Senior School Medical Officer.
- H. T. Chatfield, M.C., M.B., D.P.H., Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.
- D. F. Johnstone, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Superintendent, Isolation Hospital ; Venereal Diseases Medical Officer.
- E. J. Hynes, F.R.C.S. (ED.), D.P.H., Venereal Diseases Medical Officer (Temporary).
- Marion Smellie, M.A., M.B., D.P.H., Senior Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.
- Mildred A. Thynne, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Assistant Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.
- Marjorie Smith Wilson, M.B., D.P.H., Assistant Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.
- M. S. Harvey, M.B., D.P.H., Assistant M. and C.W. and School Medical Officer. (On active service.)
- H. B. Boucher, M.B., F.R.C.S., Assistant Port Medical Officer. (On active service).
- R. St. J. Harold, L.R.C.P. & S.I., D.P.H. (N.U.I.), Assistant Port Medical Officer (Temporary).
- A. T. Bettinson, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent, Didworthy Sanatorium.
- G. E. Larks, M.B., CH.M., F.R.C.S. (ENG. AND EDIN.), Medical Superintendent, City (General) Hospital. (On active service).
- E. G. Stanley, M.D. (PARIS), M.S. (LOND.), F.R.C.S. (ENG.), Medical Superintendent, City (General) Hospital (Temporary).
- W. Warren, M.A., M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Deputy Medical Superintendent, City (General) Hospital. (On active service.)

G. B. Carter, M.D., D.P.H., Assistant School Medical Officer. (On active service).

Christina Hargreaves, M.B., D.P.H., Assistant School Medical Officer.

Hertha M. Tietze, M.D., Assistant M. and C.W. and School Medical Officer (Temporary).

Doris I. Buckby, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Assistant M. and C.W. and School Medical Officer (Temporary).

5 Resident Medical Officers, City (General) Hospital.

1 Resident Medical Officer, Isolation Hospital.

1 Resident Medical Officer, Mount Gold Hospital.

1 Resident Medical Officer, Didworthy Sanatorium.

DENTAL SURGEONS—WHOLE-TIME.

A. Maughan, M.C., L.D.S. ; E. R. Williams, L.D.S. ; F. J. Gray, L.D.S.

MEDICAL—PART-TIME.

Consulting Physicians :—

W. A. Lister, M.B., F.R.C.P. (LONDON). (On active service.)

T. A. A. Hunter, B.A., M.B., M.R.C.P. (LONDON). (On active service.)

T. H. Shore, J.P., B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.

Consulting Surgeons :—

L. W. Innes, M.B., F.R.C.S. (ED.).

E. F. Wilson, F.R.C.S.

Orthopædic Surgeons :—

N. Capener, F.R.C.S.

C. M. Kennedy, M.B.E., F.R.C.S.

G. J. Lillie, F.R.C.S. (On active service.)

Consulting Gynaecologists :—

Mabel Ramsay, M.D., F.R.C.S. (ED.), D.P.H. (Retired December).

J. W. G. H. Riddell, M.C., M.D., F.R.C.S. (ED.), F.R.C.O.G.

A. B. Concanon, M.D., M.R.C.O.G., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (commenced 22nd November, 1944).

Pathologist :—

E. Wordley, M.C., M.D., F.R.C.P.

Consulting Ophthalmologists :—

W. H. Davis, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

C. B. F. Tivy, M.B., M.CH.

W. S. Burr, M.B., F.R.C.S. (ED.), D.O.M.S.

Consulting Laryngologists and Otologists :—

C. S. C. Prance, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.L.O.

R. Howarth, M.D., F.R.C.S. (ED.), D.L.O. (On active service.)

Consulting Radiologist :—

A. Craig Mooney, M.B., D.M.R.E.

Consulting Anaesthetists :—

S. G. Irlam, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

C. H. Hutchinson, M.A., M.B.

S. Hawkes, M.B.

T. T. P. Murphy, M.D., B.SC. (On active service.)

District Medical Officers :—

Plymouth :—

C. H. Hutchinson, M.A., M.B.

T. Wood, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. (On active service.)

J. E. Harford, M.B., D.P.H.

F. N. Adams, M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. (Temporary).

H. N. Hearle, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (On active service).

Devonport :—

J. N. Morris, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

G. A. Pratt, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

F. W. Kent, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

O. N. Morris, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Stonehouse :—

J. Simpson-White, O.B.E., M.B.

PUBLIC VACCINATORS.

Devonport and Added Area of Plymouth ;—

J. N. Morris, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Stonehouse (January to April) ;—

J. Simpson-White, O.B.E., M.B.

Stonehouse (from 1st May) ;—

G. A. Pratt, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Plymouth—South ;—

T. L. Chester-Williams, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Plymouth—North.

H. C. C. Reid, M.B.

OTHER STAFF.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :—

C. E. Sanderson, F.R.SAN.I.*†‡

Port Sanitary Inspector :—

L. N. Tope.*†

Meat Inspector :—

P. A. Hawthorn.*†

Superintendent Health Visitor :—

Miss E. G. Wright, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Assistant Supervisor of Midwives :—

Miss J. Casey, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Chief Clerk :—

R. M. Lawson.* (On active service.)

C. L. Marsh (Acting Chief Clerk).

Chief Clerk, School Medical Department :—

E. T. Perkins.

Steward, City Hospital :—

F. J. Barrett.

City Meteorologist :—

G. H. Ivory.

* Sanitary Inspector's Certificate

† Meat Inspector's Certificate.

‡ Sanitary Science Certificate.

TO THE LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE CITY
OF PLYMOUTH.

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1944.

The civilian population as estimated by the Registrar-General for mid-1944 was 144,700 as compared with 220,800 in 1939. The general death-rate was 14.66 per 1,000 population, as compared with 12.61 in 1939.

The infant mortality rate was 39.98, compared with a rate of 46 for England and Wales. The average rate for Plymouth in the five years immediately before the war was 51.35.

The live birth-rate for Plymouth was 24.03 per 1,000 population, the highest recorded rate since 1920 when it was 26.3. There was a disturbingly high number of illegitimate births during the year, namely 359, as compared with an average of 152 in the three years preceding the war. In this connection the Council's Moral Welfare Officer appointed during the year is able to do good work in assisting the women.

The number of women who died in Plymouth as a result of pregnancy or childbirth was a record low rate of 1.96 per 1,000 births. This figure is all the more surprising in view of the extremely unsatisfactory housing conditions in the City generally. Disrepair and overcrowding of houses have increased, and housing is, of course, health priority No. 1.

The Public Health Committee has been greatly concerned during the year over the position regarding tuberculosis. A considerable proportion of the new cases are ex-service men. The number of new cases showed a considerable increase in 1942, and for the last three years has remained approximately the same. The Committee has decided upon a scheme of extension and improvement at the Didworthy Sanatorium, but great difficulty is being experienced in commencing any building. Forty additional beds many in temporary accommodation for pulmonary cases, have been provided during the war at Didworthy and at Mount Gold Hospital. In addition to the insufficient accommodation for patients, the scheme of treatment of tuberculosis is also severely handicapped by a gross shortage of staff, both nursing and domestic.

Many warnings have been sounded lately that unless means are found of obtaining the necessary staff for sanatoria, there is a danger of a breakdown of the service. A very heavy strain is of necessity placed upon the existing staff.

The general health of the population has remained good, and, so far as children are concerned, it has probably shown evidence of improvement. Much of this must be due to the Government's nutritional policy during the war and the high degree of employment.

Early in 1945, a report was made to the Housing and the Reconstruction Committees of the Council on the position regarding unfit houses. The survey upon which this report was based revealed that there were 4,528 houses either totally unfit now or likely to be so within the next few years and not capable of repair. In these houses were 7,759 families. These figures have no regard for the new houses required to replace those destroyed by enemy action, to abate overcrowding and to enable the other provisions of the "Plan for Plymouth" to be carried out.

None can gainsay that the Health Services of the country have played their part in the maintenance of the people's health which has been so remarkably good during the war years. The danger of epidemics, the result of widespread food shortage and of mass movements of returning refugees in certain parts of Europe, is by no means past, and vigilance is needed against the introduction of epidemic disease.

I am, My Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. PEIRSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

SEVEN TREES,
LIPSON ROAD,
PLYMOUTH.

August, 1945.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area 1944

Area	...	...	...	(Land and inland water)	9,515 acres.
Rateable value of the City	...	...	...	} (Estimated)	£1,569,158
Sum represented by Penny rate	...	...	...		£5,548
Registrar-General's estimate of civilian population (Mid 1944)	...	...	...	...	144,700

<i>Live Births.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Legitimate ...	3118	1608	1510	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population =24.03
Illegitimate ...	359	188	171	
	<hr/> 3477	<hr/> 1796	<hr/> 1681	

<i>Stillbirths.</i>				
Legitimate ...	93	47	46	Still-birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births=27.68
Illegitimate ...	6	3	3	
	<hr/> 99	<hr/> 50	<hr/> 49	

<i>Deaths under 1 year :—</i>				
Legitimate ...	121	60	61	Death-rate of infants under one year =39.98
Illegitimate ...	18	10	8	
	<hr/> 139	<hr/> 70	<hr/> 69	

All deaths	2122	1107	1015	Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated population=14.66
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<i>Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—</i>		
All infants per 1,000 live births (Total deaths 139)	...	39.98
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births (121)		38.80
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births (18)		50.14

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.</i>
No. 29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis ...	3	.84
No. 30. Other maternal causes ...	4	1.12
	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 1.96
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**Laboratory
Facilities.**

The following tables show the bacteriological and pathological work carried out for the City at the Prince of Wales's (Greenbank) Hospital, Plymouth.

6,885 specimens were examined for the Public Health Authorities of the City. The nature of these examinations is as follows :—

Sputums for Tubercle	..	..	..	..	1805
Swabs for Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	3030
Bacteriological Counts on Milk	..	..	..	..	859
„ „ Waters	..	..	..	..	489
Hairs for Ringworm	..	..	..	..	49
Bacteriological Examinations for Infectious diseases—					
Urines	..	..	..	..	141
T. Swabs and Misc. Swabs	...	...	...	...	144
Blood Counts	..	..	..	..	166
Blood Agglutinations	..	..	..	..	6
C.S.F. Examinations	..	..	..	..	50
Sections	..	..	..	..	20
Animal Inoculations	..	..	..	..	3
Examinations of Fæces	...	...	...	...	51
Ascheim Zondeks	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	68
Total	..	..	..	..	<u>6885</u>

For V.D. Clinics—

Wassermanns and Kahns	...	...	2740
Gonococci	..	..	2682
Gonococcal Fixation Tests	...	...	387
Others (Cultures, Vag. Pus.)	...	...	387
Total	..	..	<u>6196</u>

For Medical Practitioners—

Wassermanns and Kahns	...	...	150
Gonococci	...	...	33
Total	...	...	<u>183</u>

For Other Hospitals (including Examinations for Forces) :—

Wassermanns and Kahns	...	...	6506
Gonococci	...	...	586
Gonococcal Fixations	...	...	139
C.S.F.	...	...	225
Total	...	...	<u>7456</u>

For City Hospital:—

Microscopical Examinations on Morbid Tissues..	134
Bacteriological Examinations	1319
Blood Counts	925
Biochemical Examinations	758
Sputums for T.B.	193
Ascheim Zondeks	16
Agglutinations	5
G.C. (Smears)	292
Wassermanns and Kahns	340
C.S.F.	28
Gonococcal Fixations	50
Total	4060
Grand Total ..	24,780

REPORT OF THE CITY METEOROLOGIST—MR. G. H. IVORY CLIMATOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

TAKEN AT THE "HOE," PLYMOUTH, DURING THE YEAR 1944.

	1944.	1943.	50 Years Average.
TEMPERATURE.			
Maximum	79.8 (May 28th)	78.2 (July 3rd)	—
Minimum	22.8 (Nov. 16th)	24.9 (Dec. 14th)	—
Mean	51.7	52.3	51.4
Daily Range	11.4	11.0	10.8
Relative Humidity	77%	78%	82%
EARTH TEMPERATURES.			
Earth, 1 ft. deep	51.6	51.9	52.2*
Earth, 4 ft. deep	52.3	52.6	52.6‡
Minimum on Grass	16.3 (Feb. 29th)	17.6 (Dec. 14th)	—
SEA TEMPERATURE.			
Mean, 6 ft. deep	53.7	54.5	53.2*
RAINFALL.			
Total during month	35.54"	35.21"	37.45"
Greatest Daily Fall	1.83" (Nov. 16th)	1.03" (Dec. 8th)	—
No. of Wet Days	175	197	188
SUNSHINE.			
Total Hours	1678.4	1689.4	1683.3
Greatest Daily Amount	15.1 (June 21st)	14.3 (June 28th)	—
No. of Sunless Days	62	63	62
WIND.			
Prevailing Direction	S.S.W.	S.W.	S.W.
Highest Velocity (Gust)	73 m.p.h. (Oct. 11th)	84 m.p.h. (Oct. 19th)	—

* Denotes a 45 year Average.

‡ Denotes a 27 year Average.

DEATHS—ALL CAUSES, 1944

CAUSE OF DEATH.	0-1 yrs.		1-5 yrs.		5-15 yrs.		15-45 yrs.		45-65 yrs.		65 upwards		Total		GRAND TOTAL
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
4. Whooping Cough ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	4
5. Diphtheria ...	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74	50	124
6. Tuberculosis—Respiratory System ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	46	39	23	9	4	2	10	8	18
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	3	-	4	1	1	1	2	5	-	1	-	-	13	3	16
8. Syphilitic Disease ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	2	6	1	6	4	10
9. Influenza ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	2	2	6	4	10
10. Measles ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- encephalitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	2
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13. (a) Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (males) ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	15	-	22	-	22
13. (b) Cancer of Uterus (females) ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	11	-	10	-	24	24
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	17	7	22	11	39	20	59
15. Cancer of Breast ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	8	-	9	-	20	20
16. Cancer of all other sites ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	11	36	16	60	56	99	84	183
17. Diabetes ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	5	11	11	13	18	31
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	17	33	83	85	101	119	220
19. Heart disease ...	-	1	-	-	2	1	8	13	81	48	174	205	265	268	533
20. Other diseases of circulatory system ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	11	7	23	21	34	29	63
21. Bronchitis ...	7	1	2	1	1	-	2	3	23	8	50	28	85	41	126
22. Pneumonia ...	12	18	4	5	-	-	4	3	11	9	21	20	52	55	107
23. Other respiratory diseases ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	12	1	9	4	22	9	31
24. Ulceration—stomach or duodenum...	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	11	-	5	1	18	1	19
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	9
26. Appendicitis ...	-	-	1	1	2	-	3	3	2	3	3	2	11	9	20
27. Other digestive diseases ...	2	1	-	1	2	-	1	3	11	6	12	8	28	19	47
28. Nephritis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	9	10	16	19	30	31	61
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
30. Other Maternal causes ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
31. Premature birth ...	14	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	19	33
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury and infantile disease ...	21	21	1	2	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	24	24	48
33. Suicide ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	3	4	-	8	5	13
34. Road traffic accidents ...	-	-	-	1	5	4	4	5	3	-	1	6	13	16	29
35. Other violent causes ...	1	2	4	2	3	-	4	3	5	4	6	6	23	17	40
36. All other causes ...	6	1	3	-	3	3	9	15	19	24	54	63	94	106	200
TOTAL ...	70	69	23	17	21	10	96	133	316	216	581	570	1107	1015	2122

MEDICAL OUT-RELIEF WORK.

The following table shows the work done by the District Medical Officers :—

<i>District</i>	<i>No. of visits to Patients' Homes</i>	<i>Attendances at Surgery</i>
1	387	1292
2	132	497
3	248	467
4	230	427
5	367	521
6	488	710
7	521	458
8	312	600
9	Not available	Not available

Maternity and Child Welfare

REPORT OF SENIOR ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER.

DR. M. SMELLIE.

Births. The live birth-rate for 1944 is 24.03 per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population (144,700). This is an increase of 1.0 on last year's rate, and with the exception of 1920, when the birth-rate was 26, is the highest rate recorded in Plymouth since 1914. The number of allocated births is 329 more than last year, and the estimated increase in the population is 8,170.

	<i>Notified</i>	<i>Registered</i>	<i>Allocated</i>
Total live births (legitimate and illegitimate)	3061	3077	3477
Total stillbirths (legitimate and illegitimate)	92	92	99
Total births	3153	3169	3576*
Illegitimate births—live	112	113	359
stillbirths	3	3	6
Total	115	116	365*
No. of births notified by doctors and parents			354
No. of births notified by midwives			2799
			3153

* Compare with 1939's 3,573 legitimate and 204 illegitimate births.

PLACE OF CONFINEMENT.

Own home by municipal midwife	798
Own home by municipal midwife with doctor	144
Own home by private midwife	91
Own home by private midwife with doctor	33
Own home by T.T.N.A. district midwife	227
Own home by T.T.N.A. district midwife with doctor	91
Alexandra Maternity home by midwife	913
Alexandra Maternity home by midwife with doctor	119
City Hospital by midwife	232
City Hospital by midwife with doctor	113
Private nursing homes—doctor	324
Prince of Wales's Hospital, Devonport	—
Doctors' District cases	68
Total	3153

PLYMOUTH BIRTHRATES FROM 1914.

(Per 1,000 of population.)

<i>Year.</i>			<i>Rate.</i>	<i>Year.</i>			<i>Rate.</i>
1914	...	...	23.7	1924	...	...	18.16
1915	...	...	19.9	1925	...	...	18.1
1916	...	...	21.6	1926	...	...	17.2
1917	...	...	19.3	1927	...	...	16.5
1918	...	...	19.1	1928	...	...	17.0
1919	...	...	21.6	1929	...	...	16.5
1920	...	...	26.3	1930	...	...	15.9
1921	...	...	21.2	1931	...	...	16.4
1922	...	...	19.6	1932	...	...	15.59
1923	...	...	19.4	1933	...	...	15.67
Average for 10 years			21.17	Average for 10 years			16.7

<i>Year.</i>				<i>Rate.</i>
1934	...	...	...	15.7
1935	...	...	...	15.05
1936	...	...	...	14.8
1937	...	...	...	14.6
1938	...	...	...	15.6
1939	...	...	...	15.6
1940	...	...	...	16.6
1941	...	...	...	16.43
1942	...	...	...	22.12
1943	...	...	...	23.03
Average for 10 years				16.95
1944	...	...	...	24.03

1936 birth-rate for England and Wales	...	14.8
1937	...	14.9
1938	...	15.1
1939	...	15.0
1940	...	14.6
1941	...	14.2
1942	...	15.8
1943	...	16.5
1944	...	17.6

Stillbirths. The stillbirth rate is 27.68 per 1,000 allocated births, and 0.68 per 1,000 of the civilian population. This is higher than the rate for England and Wales which is 0.50 per 1,000 civilian population.

STILLBIRTH RATE

Year	ENGLAND AND WALES		PLYMOUTH	
	Per 1,000 births	Per 1,000 population	Per 1,000 births	Per 1,000 population
1932	41.0	—	45.0	—
1933	41.0	—	37.5	—
1934	40.0	—	35.5	—
1935	41.0	0.62	38.8	0.62
1936	—	0.61	37.72	0.58
1937	—	0.60	36.97	0.56
1938	—	0.60	40.6	0.66
1939	—	—	35.5	0.59
1940	—	0.55	34.29	0.59
1941	—	0.51	32.3	0.41
1942	—	0.54	29.95	0.68
1943	—	0.51	31.7	0.75
1944	—	0.50	27.68	0.68

Infant Mortality.

Number of deaths under one year : 139.

Infant mortality rate : 39.98 per thousand live births. (England and Wales=46).

Neo-natal mortality rate : 23 per 1,000 live births.

54% of the total deaths under one year were due to natal and pre-natal causes, 27.3% to respiratory diseases, and 8.6% to digestive diseases. There were no deaths from infectious diseases.

Deaths of children between 1 and 5 years.

No. of deaths				...	...	...	40
<i>Deaths 0-1 years.</i>				<i>Deaths 1-5 years.</i>		<i>Total deaths under 5 years.</i>	
1938	...	...	176	59		235	
1939	...	...	145	48		193	
1940	...	...	197	94		291	
1941	...	...	178 (27 enemy action)	112 (48 enemy action)		290	
1942	...	...	146	32		178	
1943	...	...	118	49		167	
1944	..	...	139	40		179	

Infantile Diarrhoea.

There were nine deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis in children under two years of age. This is equivalent to a rate of 2.58 per 1,000 live births, and although a local increase, still compares favourably with the rate of 4.8 for England and Wales.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

<i>Noti- fied</i>	<i>Where treated</i>			<i>Vision unim- paired</i>	<i>Vision im- paired</i>	<i>Vision lost</i>
	<i>Home</i>	<i>Royal Eye Infirmary</i>	<i>City Hospital</i>			
10	2	6	2	9*	1	—

* Includes 2 deaths.

The case with impaired vision started as a “sticky eye” on the 12th day. The gonococcus was found to be present in this and one other case which died of septicæmia at the age of two months.

The other death was from convulsions at the age of sixteen days.

Child Life Protection.

The Health Visitors acting as Child Life Protection Officers paid 340 home visits during 1944.

FOSTER-PARENTS.

No. on Register, 1st January, 1944	....	....	21
New registrations during the year	....	....	30
			—
			51
Removals from Register during the year	....		25
			—
On Register at end of year	....	....	26
			==
No. of notifications of change of address within area	... ..	... ..	2

FOSTER-CHILDREN.

No. on Register, 1st January, 1944	....	....	25
Notifications of children received during the year			50
			—
			75

Removals from Register during the year :—

Adopted	....	....	4
Over age	....	....	2
Returned to care of relatives	....		25
Removed to official organisations	...		3
Removed to outside areas	... ..		2
Transferred to other foster-mothers			5
Evacuated to Residential Nursery			1
Removed to City Hospital for War- leigh House	... ..		2
			—
Total removals from Register	....	....	44
			—
On Register at end of the year	....	....	31
			==
Interviews with Mothers and Fathers	...	...	27
Interviews with Foster-mothers	...	...	23
Home Visits by Superintendent Health Visitor			40

Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939.

Cases brought forward from 1943	...	...	15
New cases in 1944	...	...	60

Total on Register for 1944	...	...	75
Adoptions completed during 1944	56		
Adoptions not proceeded with	2		
No. of children who died during the year	1		
No. who transferred to other areas	2		
	—		61
			—
Total on Register at end of 1944	...	...	14
			==
Visiting—			
1st visits	...	...	108
Re-visits	...	...	122
			—
Total visits	...	...	230
			==

The coming into force in 1943 of the Adoption of Children Act, 1939, has thrown upon the Maternity and Child Welfare Department, a considerable increase of work of a highly specialised nature.

In 1944 twelve adoptions were arranged solely through this department, the adopters having applied direct to the department without the intervention of a third person.

A great deal of time and thought has been given to the arranging of these adoptions. Time is spent on the interviewing of adopters and mothers, on the further investigation of the statements made, on the visiting of the home of the proposed adopters, on the writing of reports, on the answering of the many queries arising during the probationary period, including the feeding and the general care of the child, on the straightening out of the legal problems involved in each particular case, on acting as a liaison with the mother when the adopters do not wish to contact her personally, and when it is not in the child's best interest that they should do so, and in many other ways. Every effort is made to ensure that each child is placed in just the right home, and so far all the adoptions we have arranged have proved very satisfactory.

**Ministry of
Health Circular
2866. Care of
Illegitimate
Children.**

(a) Guaranteed payments to Foster-Mothers.

The placing of illegitimate children with foster-mothers has been much easier since the inauguration on April 1st, 1944, of a definite scheme guaranteeing payments to foster-mothers where necessary for the care of children

up to five years of age. One pound a week per child is guaranteed, and the mother is expected to contribute towards this according to her means. All foster homes are visited regularly by the Health Visitors.

(b) Illegitimate children who must have institutional care are admitted to Warleigh House Residential Nursery.

(c) A Moral Welfare Officer was appointed and started work on August 1st, 1944. She has submitted the following report :—

“ Since August 1st, nearly 100 cases have been referred to the Moral Welfare Officer, from the following sources : The ante-natal clinics, Health Visitors, The Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families' Association, the Alexandra Nursing Home, the Western National Adoption Society, and the Council of Social Service.

Of these cases, 47 have been facing the awful problem of entering upon unmarried motherhood. Many are practically destitute and homeless or in danger of becoming homeless.

Nearly all the maternity homes are taxed to their utmost capacity, and it is almost an impossibility to get a girl admitted into one, if she has not made application several months in advance.

Much pressure has been required to persuade parents or relatives to exercise kindness and patience. The W.V.S., the American Red Cross Society, the Council of Social Service, the Social Welfare Officers, and other public social services have all been most helpful in these cases,—and the Ministry of Labour has co-operated splendidly in the rehabilitation of several people.

Some girls have needed only friendly advice, whilst one or two have refused help.

Two unmarried mothers are deaf and dumb.

The married woman expecting a child that is not her husband's, has presented a special problem, in that the rules of many maternity homes do not allow them to be considered for admission.

Many have been the hours spent in persuading the married expectant mother to write and acquaint her husband of the tragic facts.

Forty-one of these cases have been dealt with, and arrangement for the adoption of the baby has seemed the wisest solution in many cases, but not in all.

In some instances the husbands have been interviewed, or letters written to them, and reconciliations have been effected.

One or two Church and Social Workers have come to the Moral Welfare Office seeking help and advice about their girls whose behaviour was causing anxiety.

A few casual cases have been passed on to Welfare Workers in county areas.

There is a great dearth of foster-mothers. When an unmarried mother or a young married mother, who has under war conditions never set up a home, is leaving the Maternity Hospital she is faced with the question, 'Where can I go?' or 'What can I do?'

There is a very real need in the City of Plymouth for a Mother and Baby Home or Hostel, where girls could live both before their confinement and also after their return to work. This would enable girls to have their babies with them for a longer period than is possible at present.

Many girls have, at their first interview, said that they wanted their babies adopted, but have changed their minds later, and some have said from the first that they wanted employment where they could have their babies with them.

In most cases, the mothers married and unmarried, their parents, husbands and others have expressed appreciation of help received."

Health Visiting. There were eleven whole-time and one part-time Health Visitors on the staff at the end of the year.

Summary of visits paid during the year :—

Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,593
1st year visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,169
1st visits, 1-5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	633
Re-visits, 1-5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,110
1st ante-natal visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	416
Re-ante-natal visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	451
Visits re infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	135
Child Life Protection visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	340
1st visits re adoption	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Re-visits re adoption	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
Special visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	917
								<hr/> 30,994 <hr/>

The 135 visits in connection with infectious diseases are made up as follows :—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Discharging eyes	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Chicken pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Mumps	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebral-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cerebral-spinal meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
							135

Forty-one sanitary defects were reported by Health Visitors, and eleven visits were paid in connection with the Home Help Service.

At the end of the year there were 11,731 children under five for eleven whole-time and one part-time Health Visitors to visit, 3,502 being under one year of age.

This is much too high a case load, and means that the recognised standard of routine home visiting cannot be carried out and that many children and their homes are never seen by the Health Visitor.

The population of Plymouth has always been a changing one, and during the war years there has been a considerable increase in this changing of address, all of which adds greatly to the Health Visitor's work. With the present overcrowding and low standard of living, the need for home visiting is more urgent than it has been for many years.

Infant Welfare Centres Throughout the year a service has been maintained at eight Centres. Eleven child welfare sessions have been held every week instead of our pre-war eighteen.

For Diphtheria Immunisation, six clinics weekly have been provided and for ultra-violet light treatment two sessions weekly.

The Observation Play Circle has continued its good work, 36 children making 405 attendances during the year.

Twenty-eight children who had at some time attended an Infant Welfare Centre died during 1944, 13 deaths being due to pneumonia and bronchitis and only 2 to gastroenteritis.

Broncho-pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	10	} 13
(Associated with whooping cough, 1)							
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	3	
(T.B., 1 ; C.S.M., 1 ; Pneumococcal, 1)							
Epilepsy	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Heart	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Eczema	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Scalds	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Hydrocephalus	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Cleft palate	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Pyloric stenosis	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Hepatitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Gastro-enteritis (under 1 year)	...	...	...	...	...	2	

See Table on page 26 for a summary of the work done at the various centres throughout the year.

	<i>Town Hall.</i>	<i>Beaumont Hut.</i>	<i>Devonport Park.</i>	<i>Wolseley Hall.</i>	<i>Peeverell.</i>	<i>Honic-knowle.</i>	<i>St. Budeaux</i>	<i>Efford.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
No. of sessions held ...	51	204	52	48	51	52	51	52	561
No. of babies entered on register ...	322 (258 1st)	955 (715 1st)	212 (167 1st)	300 (228 1st)	271 (194 1st)	118 (74 1st)	274 (189 1st)	171 (120) 1st	2623 (1945 1st)
No. of children entered on register ...	225 (97 1st)	561 (144 1st)	115 (49 1st)	129 (42 1st)	117 (31 1st)	58 (14 1st)	90 (40 1st)	110 (20 1st)	1405 (437 1st)
Total ...	547 (355 1st)	1516 (859 1st)	327 (216 1st)	429 (270 1st)	388 (225 1st)	176 (88 1st)	364 (229 1st)	281 (140 1st)	4028 (2382 1st)
No. remaining on register on 31st Dec., 1944									
Babies ...	200	543	137	180	139	55	149	97	1500
Children ...	300	905	170	226	231	109	205	166	2312
Total ...	500	1448	307	406	370	164	354	263	3812
No. of babies weighed and mothers advised	2277	7495	1312	2037	2065	1020	1928	1302	19436
No. of children weighed and mothers advised	996	2719	480	486	607	331	533	531	6683
Total ...	3273	10214	1792	2523	2672	1351	2461	1833	26119
Doctors' consultations	904	3729	550	680	569	229	556	672	7889
Average attendances per session ...	64	49	34	53	52	26	48	37	47
Dressings done ...	216	657	56	83	72	62	68	81	1295
Sewing classes held ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total attendances ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Attendances at Clinics by Health Visitors ...									2563

**Dental
Treatment.**

The following is a summary of the work done during 1944 :—

CHILDREN

Fillings	19 cases
Treatment of gums and extractions ...	1 „
Extractions and fillings	4 „
Extractions	39 „
Regulation of dentures	3 „
	<hr/>
	66 cases
	<hr/>

In the majority of these cases, a small fee was paid towards the cost.

NURSING AND EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Fillings only	5 cases
Fillings and extractions	3 „
Fillings, extractions and dentures	7 „
Fillings, extractions and repairs to denture ...	1 „
Scaling and fillings	7 „
Scaling and extractions	3 „
Scaling, extractions and dentures	12 „
Scaling, fillings and extractions	5 „
Scaling, fillings, extractions and dentures ...	1 „
Extractions only	10 „
Extractions and dentures	26 „
Dentures	2 „
Denture repairs	2 „
	<hr/>
	84 cases
	<hr/>

In 54 cases the patient paid the whole cost of treatment, in 29 cases part cost and one case had free treatment.

**Orthopaedic
Treatment.**

Child Welfare medical officers refer cases to the visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon at the Mount Gold Orthopaedic Hospital, and arrangements are then made for the prescribed treatment to be carried out.

IN-PATIENT TREATMENT AT MOUNT GOLD HOSPITAL

Under treatment at end of 1943	1
Admitted in 1944	6
Discharged in 1944	5
Under treatment at end of 1944	2

Average length of stay per in-patient for 1944 : 83 days.

OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT

Number recommended : 40.

**Ultra-Violet
Light Clinic.**

Two sessions per week have been held throughout the year.

No. of sessions	104
First attendances	137
Re-attendances	2164
	<hr/>
Total attendances	2301
	<hr/>
Average attendance	22

Ante-natal.

Throughout the year 12 ante-natal sessions have been held each week. The following table summarises the work done at these clinics.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

	Town Hall.	Beaumont Hut.	Devonport Park.	Wolseley Hall.	St. Budeaux	Efford	Totals.
No. of sessions held	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1st attendances { Pr. M. N.P. }	99 119 } 291 171 } 1 }	249 286 } 764 458 } 20 }	52 81 } 225 136 } 8 }	48 85 } 244 150 } 9 }	99 68 } 232 153 } 11 }	51 33 } 108 70 } 5 }	598 672 } 1864 1138 } 54 }
Re-attendances	1140	2888	751	853	1030	500	7162
Post-natal attendances { 1st re- }	18	33	3	—	2	6	62
Miscellaneous { 1st re- ... }	3 5 2	1 11 2	— 3 —	— 1 —	1 1 2	— 1 —	5 22 6
Total attendances { 1st re- }	314	808	231	237	231	115	1936
Average per session	15	15	19	23	13	12	15
Consultations	1382	3591	858	941	1192	563	8527
No. of transfers from 1943	95	169	44	50	69	26	453
Total No. of women attending during 1944 { A.N. P.N. Misc. }	386 } 409 — } 23 }	933 } 977 — } 44 }	269 } 275 — } 6 }	294 } 295 — } 1 }	301 } 304 — } 3 }	134 } 141 — } 7 }	2317 } 2401 — } 84 }

No. confined in 1944	....	....	....	....	....	1512*
No. aborted in 1944	....	....	....	....	....	33
No. of above confined in City Hospital	....	....	....	....	....	188
No. evacuated to emergency maternity homes	....	....	....	....	....	587
No. confined T.T.N.A. District Midwife	....	....	....	....	....	19
No. confined Alexandra Maternity Home	...	...	....	....	....	53
No. confined Municipal Midwife	....	....	....	....	....	640
No. left Plymouth	....	....	....	....	....	134

* Includes 31 stillbirths.

Character of labour in 1,512 confinements :—

Spontaneous	....	....	....	....	....	....	1433
Instrumental	....	....	....	....	....	....	40
Cæsarean	....	....	....	....	....	....	30
Induction	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Bimanual	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Not known	....	....	....	....	....	....	3

Abnormalities found in cases attending for the first time in 1944 :—

1. Contracted pelvis :—							
Minor	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Major	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
2. Albuminuria	....	....	....	....	....	....	38
3. Toxæmia	....	....	....	....	....	....	25
4. Syphilis	....	....	....	....	....	....	19
5. Gonorrhœa	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
6. Cardiac diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....	35
7. Respiratory diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....	17
8. Carious teeth	....	....	....	....	....	....	406
9. Profuse leucorrhœa	....	....	....	....	....	....	15
10. Severe digestive disturbances	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
11. Subnutrition	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
12. Anæmia	....	....	....	....	....	....	86

Abnormalities found on post-natal examination :—

No. of cases examined P.V.	....	....	....	....	....	84
Subinvolution	....	....	....	....	....	1
Cystocoele	....	....	....	....	....	3
Cervical tears and erosions	....	....	....	....	....	9
Retroversion	....	....	....	....	....	2

1,301 routine Wassermann tests were done, 16 being positive.

Home Helps. During 1944, one woman was employed as home help and attended 10 cases at a cost to the City of £22 5s. 8d.

	£	s.	d.
Paid in wages and travelling expenses	44	10	0
Amount recovered	22	4	4
	<hr/>		
	£22	5	8
	<hr/> <hr/>		

This is a decrease of £14 3s. 1d. on the previous year's expenditure.

In connection with this service, Health Visitors paid 11 visits.

Supervision of Midwives	Number notifying their intention to practise	60
	On Register at end of year	60
		<hr/>
	Municipal (including Asst. Supervisor of Midwives)	16
	In private practice	5
	T.T.N.A.	12
	Alexandra Maternity Home	15
	City Hospital	12
		<hr/>
		60
		<hr/>

No. of cases attended by private midwives :—

One midwife had 43 cases, one had 27, one had 18 and two had under 5 cases.

Approximately 71.7 per cent of the notified births (district and institutional) were conducted by midwives only.

District cases attended by midwife	... ..	1116
District cases attended by midwife acting as a maternity nurse	... ..	268
*Institutional cases attended by midwife	... ..	1145
*Institutional cases attended by midwife acting as a maternity nurse	... ..	624
		<hr/>
		3153
		<hr/> <hr/>

* Includes maternity and nursing homes and hospitals.

Medical help was sought by midwives in 829 cases, approximately 94 calls being for the child.

The following are the reasons given for seeking medical aid :—

Toxæmia of pregnancy ...	33	Unsatisfactory condition of the mother :—	
Albuminuria	9	Ante-natal	10
Oedema	3	Post-natal	8
Pyelitis	1	Adherent Placenta	6
Cardiac	2	Ruptured Perineum	423
Eclampsia	2	Pain in leg	6
Varicose veins	1	Painful breast	4
Malpresentation	7	Rise of temperature	38
Patient's request	3	Abdominal pains	1
Fœtal distress	13	Skin condition of baby	2
Maternal distress	7	Unsatisfactory condition of Infant	26
Hæmorrhage :—		Deformity of baby	3
Ante-partum (undefined)...	17	Feeble infant	30
Post-partum	4	Discharging eyes	28
Prolonged labour	88	Jaundice	3
Difficult labour	1	Tongue tie	2
Breech	19		
Prolapsed cord	2		
Uterine inertia	6		
Miscarriage	5		829
Threatened abortion	15		
Stillbirth	1		

Compared with last year's figures there is an increase of 59 in the number of calls.

Other notifications received from midwives under Central Midwives Board rules :—

Notification of artificial feeding	137
Notification of stillbirth	15
Notification of death	16
Notification of having laid out a dead body	10
Notification of liability to be a source of infection	15

Municipal Domiciliary Midwifery Service

There were 11 midwives on the staff at the beginning of the year, and 14 at the end of the year.

Municipal midwives collected fees amounting to £2,231 11s. 10d., leaving only £304 4s. 6d. to be collected by the City Treasurer's Department.

The following is a summary of the year's work.

Number of cases attended :—

Midwife only	762
Midwife with Doctor	130
	892

Number of cases attended by relief nurses :—

Midwife only	36
Midwife with Doctor	14
	50

Total 942

No. of cases booked	1080
No. of ante-natal visits paid by midwives ...	4989
No. of ante-natal clinic visits paid by midwives ...	164
No. of patients transferred to the City Hospital for confinement	5
No. of patients transferred to the City Hospital after confinement (including 3 emergencies) ...	12
Transferred to Prince of Wales's Hospital after confine- ment ..,	1
No. of patients transferred to the Royal Eye Infirmary	1
No. of emergency miscarriages	2
No. of booked miscarriages	2
No. of emergency deliveries (3 transferred to Flete; 1 transferred to Looe)	75
No. of patients booked for the administration of gas and air	56
No. of gas and air administrations	28

Ministry of Health Scheme for the Supply of Sheets. The Ministry of Health Scheme for the supply of sheets for expectant mothers who are being confined in their own homes came into force on the 29th November, 1944.

No. of Priority Dockets issued from 29.11.44 to 31.12.44	60
No. of Applicants	23
Average number of dockets per person .., ...	3

Circular 20/44. Care of Pre-mature Infants. Records were kept of all premature births occurring in the district practice of midwives during 1944.

Total number of premature births	30
Nursed at home	28
Transferred to hospital	2
Surviving at the end of one month	18
Died within 24 hours	4

The birth weights of the 12 who died were as follows :—

5½ lbs. (2) both had cerebral birth injury.
4 „ (2) ages 6 hours; 13 days.
3¾ „ (3)
3½ „ (2)
3 „ (2) aged 2 days.
2¾ „ (1)

Special equipment required for the home nursing of premature babies or for their removal to hospital is kept in the Municipal Midwifery Department and sent out as required.

This consists of :—

- 1 Carrier cot.
- 1 Electric blanket.
- Hot-water bottles.
- Blankets.
- Sleeping-bags.
- Gowns.
- Vests.
- Room thermometers.

No special nurse has been appointed to look after premature babies. Each midwife looks after her own case and gets extra help from her colleagues as necessary.

Fees Paid to Doctors. Two hundred and forty four doctors' accounts were dealt with under Section 14 of the Midwives Act, 1918. In 53 of the above doctors' accounts the full fee was paid by the local Supervising Authority without recovery. In 163 cases the full fee, and in 28 cases part or half the fee was recoverable in accordance with the scale of income fixed by the City Council. Amount paid £348 9s. 6d. Recoverable, £261 6s. 3d. Total cost, £87 3s. 3d.

There was one call under the Domiciliary Midwifery Consultant Service Scheme.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

MATERNITY HOMES.

On Register, 1st January, 1944 ...	...	...	...	2
Closed during the year ...	...	...	...	—
On Register at the end of year ...	...	...	...	2

NURSING HOMES.

On Register, 1st January, 1944 ...	...	...	...	4
Closed during the year ...	...	...	...	—
On Register at the end of year ...	...	...	...	4

Routine visits of inspection were paid by the Senior Maternity and Child Welfare Officer to all registered nursing homes.

Maternal Mortality Twelve women died in Plymouth during 1944 from causes attributable to pregnancy and childbirth. There were two outward transfers and no inward transfers. There were, therefore, ten deaths belonging to Plymouth, giving a maternal mortality rate of 2.79 per 1,000 allocated births (sepsis, 0.55 ; other causes, 2.2 . Excluding abortions, the maternal mortality rate for the City is 2.2 (sepsis, 0.27 ; other causes, 1.96). The abortion mortality rate is 0.55 (sepsis, .27 ; non-sepsis, .27).

DEATHS DUE TO PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH, 13

(Belonging to Plymouth, 11).

CAUSES :

Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pulmonary embolism	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Puerperal uræmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Toxæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Obstetric shock	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Intestinal obstruction following cæsarean section	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute pyelonephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<hr/> 12 <hr/>

WHERE CONFINED :

Aborted own home	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Aborted nursing home	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Confined City Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Confined own home	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Undelivered	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<hr/> 12 <hr/>

CHARACTER OF LABOUR :

Spontaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Instrumental	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cæsarean section	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Undelivered	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<hr/> 12 <hr/>

DURATION OF PREGNANCY :

40 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
37 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
35 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
28 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
							<hr/> 12 <hr/>

AGES :

Under 20 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
20-24 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
25-29 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
30-34 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
35-39 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
							<hr/> 12 <hr/>

PARITY :

1st pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
2nd pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
3rd pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
4th pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
5th pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<hr/> 12 <hr/>

HOME CONDITIONS :

Good	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fair	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
								<hr/> 12 <hr/>

ANTE-NATAL SUPERVISION :

Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Inadequate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								<hr/> 12 <hr/>

PLACE OF DEATH :

Own home	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
City Hospital	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Nursing home	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								<hr/> 12 <hr/>

TOTAL PUERPERAL MORTALITY.

Year	ENGLAND AND WALES			PLYMOUTH		
	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total births		Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total births	
		Including abortions	Excluding abortions		Including abortions	Excluding abortions
1928	4.42	4.25	—	6.04	—	—
1929	4.33	4.16	—	4.98	—	—
1930	4.40	4.22	—	6.43	—	—
1931	4.11	3.94	—	—	2.81	—
1932	4.21	4.04	—	—	5.58	—
1933	4.51	4.32	—	—	5.95	—
1934	4.60	4.42	—	—	4.2	—
1935	4.10	3.93	—	—	5.01	—
1936	3.81	3.65	—	—	2.82	—
1937	3.23	3.11	—	—	5.3	—
1938	3.08	2.97	—	—	2.03	—
1939	2.93	2.82	—	—	3.07	—
1940	—	2.6	2.16	—	3.8	3.2
1941	—	2.76	2.23	—	2.10	1.26
1942	—	2.17	1.01	—	3.44	3.09
1943	—	2.29	1.84	—	3.6	2.7
1944	—	1.93	1.53*	—	2.79†	2.24‡‡

* Sepsis ... 0.28
Other causes ... 1.25

† Sepsis ... 0.55
Other causes ... 2.24
‡‡ Sepsis ... 0.27
Other causes ... 1.96

Puerperal
Pyrexia.

Total notifications, 49 ; confined in Plymouth, 33 ; confined outside but belonging to Plymouth, 5 ; confined in Plymouth but residing outside, 7 ; moved to Plymouth hospital after confinement, 4.

Rate per 1,000 total births, 13.4. (England and Wales, 10.4).

Year.	No. of cases notified		Total
	P.P.	P.F.	
Oct., 1926– Dec., 1927	—	—	96
1928	—	—	58
1929	47	15	62
1930	32	20	52
1931	41	12	53
1932	39	13	52
1933	25	26	51
1934	29	16	45
1935	30	22	52
1936	21	17	38
1937	41	14	55
1938	67	—	67
1939	48	—	48
1940	59	—	59
1941	39	—	39
1942	29	—	29
1943	41	—	41
1944	49	—	49

PLACE OF CONFINEMENT :

Own home, Plymouth	...	...	...	...	...	6
Own home, County	...	...	...	...	...	3
City Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	22
Alexandra Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	...	10
Nursing Home	...	...	...	...	...	1
Flete Emergency Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	...	7
						49

WHERE TREATED :

Own home	...	...	...	...	...	—
City Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	43
Alexandra Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	...	5
Nursing home	...	...	...	...	...	1
						49

CHARACTER OF LABOUR :

Spontaneous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Instrumental	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Cæsarean section	...	...	...	...	...	...	15*

49

*(Note high proportion of cæsarean section.)

==

PARITY :

Primipara	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	31
Multipara	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18

49

==

CAUSE OF PYREXIA :

Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Pelvic abscess	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Breast abscess	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Urinary infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cystitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Empyema	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Thrombophlebitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Intestinal obstruction	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sinusitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coryza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chest, post operation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
P.U.O.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

49

==

There was no notification of pyrexia following abortion.

In the 18 sepsis cases, 6 followed cæsarean section and 12 spontaneous labour, associated in 4 cases with manual removal of placenta, in 2 with retained placenta and membranes, and in 2 with P.P.H.

Out of 13 cases of pyelitis and urinary infection, 6 followed forceps delivery, 3 cæsarean section and 4 spontaneous labour.

Mothers' Advice Clinic.

A fortnightly session has been held at Beaumont Hut Centre under the auspices of the National Birth Control Association.

No. of clinics held	...	...	...	...	...	24
New cases	...	...	...	...	...	129
(Sent by Health Authorities, 25.)						
No. of return visits	...	...	...	...	226	
No. dealt with by post	...	...	...	...	129	
					—	355
No. seen by Doctor	...	...	...	...	...	98

War-Time Day Nurseries. The war-time day nurseries at 24 Hoe Street, Plymouth, and 2 Nelson Gardens, Stoke, continued to function very satisfactorily throughout the year.

HOE STREET

No. of children passed for admission	...	...	...	88
No. of children admitted during the year	...	...	...	51
No. of children discharged during the year	...	...	...	47
No. of applications cancelled	...	...	...	28
No. of applications refused	...	...	...	5
No. of applications deferred	...	...	...	10
Average daily attendance	...	...	...	35

NELSON GARDENS

No. of children passed for admission	...	...	...	85
No. of children admitted during the year	...	...	...	50
No. of children discharged during the year	...	...	...	58
No. of applications cancelled	...	...	...	27
No. of applications refused	...	...	...	10
No. of applications deferred	...	...	...	8
Average daily attendance	...	...	...	35

The children who attend at these two Nurseries improve surprisingly in health and general well being, but only the children of mothers in full-time employment can be admitted.

There is a great and urgent need for more nurseries, so that nursery facilities may be available for all children according to their need, and with housing conditions as they are to-day in this City, that need is very great.

Evacuation of Children under Five Years to Residential Nurseries. One hundred and seventy three children were evacuated to residential nurseries during the year, 367 discharged and 84 transferred.

In the beginning of November, 1944, the Ministry of Health intimated that the Plymouth evacuation scheme should now be wound up. We had then 272 children in the evacuation residential nurseries. By the end of the year this number had been reduced to 124.

Evacuation of Expectant Mothers. The arrangements for the evacuation of expectant mothers to emergency maternity homes continued throughout the year. 756 expectant mothers were sent away, 551 to Flete, and 205 to Polvellan, Looe.

**Residential
Nursery.**

On the 9th of October, 1944, the children's nursery at Warleigh House, Tamerton Foliot, was transferred from the care of the City Hospital to that of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department. This nursery has to admit both short and long stay cases and can accommodate 33 children aged 0-5 years. The house itself is not suitable for a nursery and it has not been properly adapted, so that the work there is carried on under difficult and trying conditions.

Better premises have recently been obtained in the City itself, but it will be some considerable time before they are ready for occupation.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

MR. C. E. SANDERSON.

Water Supply. The water supply for the City is derived from moorland catchment areas in the uplands of Dartmoor and is supplied through eleven service reservoirs.

The practice of chloramination and chlorination of all water has continued during the year.

Quantity. Owing to the prolonged drought during the Spring and Winter, the stock of usable water in Burrator Reservoir by 22nd June had fallen to 448,000,000 gallons, representing roughly sixty-one days' supply. As a result, it was found necessary to restrict the water supply, and from the 27th June to 2nd July the water was cut off, except for essential services, for varying periods during the evening. Shortly after these measures were put into operation the drought ended, and normal supplies were restored from the 3rd July. Emergency powers were sought to enable water to be taken from the River Walkham, at a point about 250 feet above Huckworthy Bridge, up to a maximum of 1,500,000 gallons a day, and to pump this supply, through a service line of pipes, into Dousland Reservoir.

Quality. The following tables of bacteriological examination and chemical analysis give information regarding the quality of the supply. No bacteriological examinations of the raw water were made during the year, but only after treatment.

Chemical Analysis.

Twelve samples of water were submitted for chemical analysis, and all gave satisfactory results.

The following table gives a representative summary of the results of samples sent for chemical analysis, the figures representing parts per 100,000 :—

	<i>February</i>		<i>August</i>		<i>December</i>	
Temporary Hardness ...	0.6	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.4
Permanent Hardness ...	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.0	1.0	2.0
Total Hardness ...	2.6	2.6	2.4	1.6	1.4	2.4
Chlorides as Chlorine ...	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.4
Ammonia free and saline as nitrogen...	0.0016	0.002	Nil	0.0002	0.0005	0.0076
Ammonia, albuminoid as nitrogen...	0.0064	0.0082	0.0056	0.0068	0.0058	0.006
Nitrates as nitrogen ...	0.008	0.012	0.04	Nil	0.006	0.008
Nitrites as nitrogen ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Oxygen (absorbed 3 hrs. at 37° C.)	0.042	0.056	0.15	0.18	0.1	0.2
Metals (zinc, copper and lead)	Not de- tected	Not de- tected	Not de- tected	Not de- tected	Not de- tected	Not de- tected
pH value ...	Not stated	Not stated	6.6	6.6	7.0	7.0

Plumbo-Solvency.

Plymouth's water, being upland surface supply, is acid and, as one would naturally expect, plumbo-solvent.

The chemical analysis of the supply taken from household taps during the year, however, showed no detectable quantity of lead or of any of the other metals.

Recent tests for plumbo-solvency were carried out by a consultant firm in the following manner : “ 200 c.c. was placed in contact with a strip of brightly-polished lead, measuring 3 inches by 1 inch, for twenty-four hours, at room temperature.” The results showed that the action of lead is not excessive (in the case of Plymouth supply, 0.08-0.10).

Water supplied to Yelverton is treated with .5 grains per gallon of sodium carbonate and pH maintained between 7.0 and 7.2. Tests carried out on the same lines as in the last paragraph showed action of lead to be 0.04.

No specific measures are taken to reduce plumbo-solvency in the water supplied to Plymouth, although the use of lead for long services is discouraged.

Bacteriological Examination of Water.

Five hundred and fifty-two samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination, a summary of results being shown in the following table :—

SAMPLES OF WATER SUBMITTED FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION DURING 1944

<i>Source</i>	<i>Samples submitted to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Laboratory</i>			<i>Samples submitted to the County Bacteriologist, Exeter</i>		
	<i>Total No. samples</i>	<i>B. Coli present in 100 ml.</i>	<i>B. Coli absent in 100 ml.</i>	<i>Total No. samples</i>	<i>B. Coli present in 100 ml.</i>	<i>B. Coli absent in 100 ml.</i>
From premises inside the City, supplied by City mains	364	111 (107 Non-Faecal)	253	60	12 (4 Non-Faecal)	48
From emergency drinking water tanks in City	19	7 (Non-Faecal)	12	—	—	—
From Bathing Pools inside the City	38	34 (26 Non-Faecal)	4	—	—	—
From wells and springs used for drinking water in the City	10	8 (7 Non-Faecal)	2	—	—	—
From premises outside the City supplied by City mains	23	2 (Non-Faecal)	21	1	—	1
From wells, springs, etc., outside the City used for drinking water	29	5 (Non-Faecal)	24	1	—	1
From streams, etc., outside the City, possible sources of drinking water	7	5 (Faecal)	2	—	—	—
Grand Totals	490	172	318	62	12	50

The water supplying a trough on the roadside was found to be highly contaminated. As this water was used by passers-by for drinking purposes, a notice was erected over the trough stating that the water was unfit for drinking.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The sanitary inspection of the City proceeded throughout the year with a staff depleted to 10 sanitary inspectors, and whereas the number of complaints of nuisances and housing defects increased, the difficulty of obtaining labour and materials became more acute.

Complaints Received. One thousand seven hundred and four complaints of nuisances were received and investigated during the year.

In recent years the number of complaints received has continued to increase, the extent of such increases being as follows :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>1941</i>	<i>1942</i>	<i>1943</i>	<i>1944</i>
Number of complaints received	870	1080	1319	1704

The majority of these complaints refer to housing defects, and the cause of the increase is regarded as being due to the shortage of labour and the inability of house-owners to secure the carrying out of works. The extent of war damage defects in house property is a further cause of the increase in the number of complaints.

Result of Service of Notices. Owing to the shortage of labour and some materials, specifications in notices referred only to essential repairs.

The nature and extent of nuisances abated, and works executed are as follows :—

HOUSES :

Walls repaired	34
Outside plastering repaired	79
Inside plastering repaired	152
Floors renewed or repaired	99
Floors ventilated	7
Roofs renewed or repaired	259
Chutes, downpipes or gutters renewed or repaired	75
Chimneys repaired	36
Ceilings repaired	128
Doors and frames repaired	22
Lighting and ventilation of rooms improved ...	9
Window sashes or frames renewed or repaired ...	60
Window cords renewed	44
Staircases repaired	4
Grates or ovens repaired or renewed	39
Boilers provided or repaired	8
Wash-houses provided or improved	6
Walls or ceilings cleansed and redecorated ...	85
Bedding cleansed or destroyed	9
Yard paving relaid or repaired	18
Nuisances from animals abated	6
Accumulations removed	99
Ash bins provided	66
Water supply provided	2
Water taps or pipes repaired	35
Water samples taken for analysis	425
Miscellaneous repairs and nuisances abated ...	149

DRAINAGE :

Drains tested, smoke	20
Drains tested, water	4
New drains constructed	11
Drains relaid	36
Drains repaired	71
Drains cleansed	448
Inspection or intercepting chambers provided ...	22
Inspection or intercepting chambers repaired ...	6
Intercepting traps fixed	9
Soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed or repaired	20
Rainwater pipes disconnected	1
Gullies fixed	34
Troughs provided	12
Troughs trapped or waste pipes repaired	28
Bath wastes trapped or repaired	1
Lavatory basins trapped or waste pipes repaired	11
Drain inlets inside houses abolished	5

WATER-CLOSETS :

Additional W.C.s provided	...	...	...	...	5
W.C.s reconstructed	...	...	...	...	9
Lighting and ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	3
New pans and traps fixed	...	...	...	...	76
W.C.s cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Flushing apparatus provided	...	...	...	...	17
Flushing apparatus repaired	...	...	...	...	90
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	60

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS :

No. of houses infested with bed bugs	...	...	44
No. of houses disinfested by insecticides	...	...	49

CESSPOOLS :

Emptied	...	...	...	...	...	8
Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3

RAT DESTRUCTION :

Baits laid in sewers	...	...	...	...	18,642
Baits taken in sewers	...	...	...	...	14,550
Baits laid elsewhere	...	...	...	...	26,268
Baits taken elsewhere	...	...	...	...	12,207
Rats caught	...	...	...	...	2,295

URINALS :

Flushing apparatus fixed or repaired	...	...	54
Walls repaired or made impervious	...	...	2
Floors repaired	...	...	3
Other repairs	...	...	41

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS :

No. of premises registered	...	...	...	...	1
Existing dairies improved	...	...	...	...	1
Paving repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Lighting and ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	1
Limewashing or cleansing carried out	...	...	...	...	30

FOOD SHOPS, KITCHENS AND PREMISES USED FOR PREPARATION OR MANUFACTURE OF PRESERVED FOODS :

Cleanliness improved	...	...	...	...	32
Storage arrangements improved	...	...	...	...	1
Lighting or ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	1
Ash-bins provided	...	...	...	...	13
Water supply provided	...	...	...	...	27

FRIED FISH SHOPS :

Lighting and ventilation improved	...	...	4
Drainage improved	1
Other repairs	2

OFFENSIVE TRADES :

Cleanliness improved	1
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KNACKERS YARDS :

Accumulations removed	1
Floors or walls repaired	1
Other repairs	2

BACK LANES :

Accumulations removed	12
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REFERENCES TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS :

To the City Engineer	174
To the Water Engineer	20
To the Housing Estates Manager	...	...	...	...	157
To the Director of Education	...	...	...	...	15
To the War Damage Officer	...	...	...	...	284
To other Departments	...	...	...	...	89

Rats and Mice Destruction. Six hundred and ten complaints of rat infestation were received and investigated during the year. In this connection 2,216 inspections of and visits to premises were made.

In 160 cases it was necessary to serve notices requiring the carrying out of rat-proofing works, and at the end of the year 158 of these notices had been complied with.

The responsibility for keeping premises free from rat infestation rests with the occupier, on whose behalf the Health Department frequently undertakes the work and charges the occupier with the cost.

The various methods of hunting, trapping, pre-baiting and poison-baiting and gassing are used, according to the extent of infestation, and type of premises, but in an extensively bomb-damaged district it is difficult to prevent some reinfestation.

During the year 26,268 poison baits were laid in and around rat-infested premises, and of these 12,207 were taken. Nearly 5,000 rat-holes were gassed. 2,295 rats were caught by other means.

Systematic baiting of sewers was carried out. Of 18,642 baits laid in sewers 14,550 were taken.

PREMISES The following table shows the numbers of inspections of various premises carried out during the year
INSPECTED together with the number of Notices served.

Premises Inspected	Inspections or Visits	Intimation Notices served or Improvements required	Intimation Notices complied with or Improvements effected	Statutory Notices served during the year	Statutory Notices complied with during the year
Houses inspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	1994	1292	—	—	—
Houses reinspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	5444	—	1054	186	97
Houses visited re overcrowding	66	1	—	—	—
Premises (other than houses) inspected for nuisances ...	160	26	23	1	1
Owners or Contractors interviewed	283	—	—	—	—
Houses visited re notifiable diseases	423	—	—	—	—
Houses visited re other diseases	17	—	—	—	—
Visits re Smallpox contacts	179	—	—	—	—
Council Houses examined for vermin	10	—	—	—	—
Private Houses examined for vermin	165	—	—	—	—
Council Houses found verminous	5	5	5	—	—
Private Houses found verminous	146	146	135	4	1
Common Lodging-houses	28	2	1	—	—
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	11	1	—	—	—
Outworkers' premises	385	—	—	—	—
Workplaces (excluding offices)	1	—	—	—	—
Offices	1	—	—	—	—
Public conveniences	1229	104	82	—	—
Smoke observations taken	1	—	—	—	—
Old drains smoke tested	56	10	—	—	—
Old drains inspected	438	9	—	—	—
Sewers, street gullies, back roads, etc.	1790	47	46	—	—
Swine, fowls and other animals	73	18	14	—	—
Marine stores	17	2	—	—	—
Stables	5	1	—	—	—
Tips	46	3	3	—	—
Accumulations	164	64	64	—	—
Schools	123	7	7	—	—
Swimming baths	17	—	—	—	—
Rat infestation	2216	160	158	—	—
Cesspools	34	3	3	—	—
Cinemas and amusement places	7	1	1	—	—
Public houses	315	8	8	—	—
Water courses	17	—	—	—	—
Water supply	419	—	—	—	—
Offensive trades	25	3	—	—	—
Knackers' Yards	11	2	1	1	—
Restaurants and food preparing places	580	47	39	—	—
Dairies and milkshops	903	6	1	—	—
Cowsheds	361	26	18	—	—
Milk Purveyors	614	3	3	—	—
Visits to premises re unsound foods	476	—	—	—	—
Visits to butchers and food factories	1526	11	6	—	—
General provision shops	802	9	4	—	—
Fruit and vegetable shops	52	2	2	—	—
Fish shops	26	1	—	—	—
Fried fish and chip shops	221	4	6	—	—
Visits re Rent Restriction Acts	23	—	—	—	—
Markets	9	—	—	—	—
Slaughter-houses	2955	—	—	—	—
Reinspection of Shops (Under Shops Act)	1	—	1	—	—
Registered Nursing Homes	9	1	—	—	—
Day inspections of air raid shelters	722	6	1	—	—
Miscellaneous	2441	10	10	—	—
Fire watchers premises	762	5	5	—	—
Bomb damaged sites	1092	27	27	—	—
Balloon barrage sites	247	1	—	—	—

HOUSING.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	1994
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	7438
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	175
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	228
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	77
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	1147

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	902
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	96
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
	(a) By owners ...	4
	(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	120
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
	(a) By owners ...	93
	(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	7
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :		
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	3
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit	... ..	Nil
(3) Number of Undertakings not to use unfit houses accepted	... ..	4
4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART IV—OVERCROWDING :—		
(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year		120
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	... ..	125
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	... ..	836
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding during the year		25
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	... ..	2
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	... ..	18

A PLAN FOR PLYMOUTH.

Because of devastation of large areas of the City by enemy action, a plan for rebuilding a part of the City became necessary, and this was contained in “A Plan for Plymouth,” which was published during the year.

In considering the Plan, the Reconstruction Committee of the City Council invited the Standing Committees to examine the Plan and report and submit observations as to how it affected their departments. In this connection the following report was submitted.

REPORT TO THE HOUSING COMMITTEE.

This Report is submitted in connection with Minute 168, whereby the Reconstruction Committee invited the Standing Committees to examine the Plymouth Plan and Report and submit, by the end of February, their observations as to how far the Plan and Report affect their departments.

The Health Department is chiefly concerned with :—

- (1) The clearance of unfit houses ;
- (2) The rehousing of badly-housed families ;
- (3) The redevelopment of insanitary areas ;
- (4) The repair of insanitary houses ;
- (5) The registration and control of houses let in lodgings.

1. SLUM CLEARANCE.

There are at present in the City 2,954 badly-housed families occupying 1,701 unfit houses.

These figures do not include the vacant unfit houses nor those houses which, already old and in a state of disrepair, are likely to become unfit for human habitation during the next 5 to 10 years. It is estimated that a further 2,827 would be in this category.

The 1,701 houses above referred to include the worst type of house in the City, from which the occupants should be rehoused with as little delay as possible.

The distribution of these houses throughout the various wards, and the numbers of the various sized families, is shown in the Table at the end of this Report.

It would appear that there are the same tendencies existing to-day as existed immediately following the last war, i.e. the tendency to suggest that slum clearance cannot proceed immediately after the war because of the acute shortage of houses and the tendency to regard the solution of the housing problem merely as a matter of providing the requisite number of new houses in the shortest possible time. It is essential that the clearance of slum houses and the rehousing of the families occupying them should proceed along with the erection of new houses.

Since 1885 legislation has attempted to deal with the slum clearance problem, and after nearly 60 years the slum problem is still with us.

Poverty should be no reason why people live in sordid surroundings. It is probable that the root of the matter lies in the fact that people become demoralised as a result of living under degrading conditions, and the sooner this aspect of the housing problem is dealt with, the sooner will social reorganisation become apparent within the families.

It is appreciated that the problem of the slum population is a complex one, and it is of little use reforming housing standards unless the problem of the slum family is dealt with at the same time by sound housing estate management.

The housing problem has a much wider scope than the building and management of houses. The house simply provides physical shelter, whereas the home provides social shelter and family organisation, upon which depend the well-being and character of the people.

There are many old houses in Plymouth lacking in space, conveniences, privacy and almost everything which contributes to a decent home, and it is in such environment that many of the poorest people have been brought up, with adverse effects on health and happy family life.

These points are mentioned in order to stress the necessity for dealing as early as possible with the slum houses in this City.

2. THE REHOUSING OF BADLY-HOUSED FAMILIES.

In considering the number and size of new houses required to rehouse families at present occupying totally unfit houses, regard has been given to the Report on the Design of Dwellings prepared by a Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee and to Section 136 of the Housing Act, 1936. To meet the needs of very large families, however, the Committee may wish to acquire suitable existing houses as and when they become available.

Number of New Dwellings Required.

Two thousand, nine hundred and fifty-four dwellings are required to rehouse families at present occupying unfit houses.

The number and sizes of these houses are shown in the following table :—

<i>Number in family.</i>	<i>Size of dwelling required.</i>	<i>Total number of dwellings required.</i>
Single persons ...	Bed recess off living room ...	596
Old couples ...	One bedroom	153
Young couples and 3-4 persons ...	Two bedrooms	1634
5-6 persons ...	Three bedrooms	415
7-8 persons ...	Four bedrooms	114
9-10 persons ...	Five bedrooms	34
11, 12 and 13 per- sons	Suitable large existing house to be acquired	8
Total		2954

Requisitioning of Existing Houses.

In August, 1943, the Ministry of Health gave Local Authorities additional powers of requisitioning, so as to include the taking of possession of buildings required for the purpose of improving the conditions of families at present inadequately housed.

The object was to mitigate the increasing housing difficulties by the repair, or further repair, of existing houses, and bringing into use accommodation not at present utilised, which is, or can readily be made, suitable for housing, a reasonable preference being given to families occupying insanitary or overcrowded houses, large families or otherwise living under unsatisfactory housing conditions.

From October, 1943, to December, 1944, 282 houses were found and, after preliminary enquiries, were considered by this department to be suitable for rehousing purposes, though in some cases after the carrying out of very minor repairs. A negligible number, if any, of these houses have been requisitioned for inadequately-housed families.

There remain many houses, or parts of houses, in the City which should be requisitioned and used for housing purposes. The Ministry have advised that those houses requiring the minimum of repairs should be dealt with first, in order to increase housing accommodation in the shortest time, and it is felt that many more houses could be made available if this priority were given to such houses and if arrangements were made for more speedy requisitioning.

The Ministry have also recommended the conversion of large houses into flats, and as and when such houses become available they could be requisitioned and converted into accommodation suitable for more than one family.

Furthermore, a small number of houses in the City are being used for storage purposes, and these should, as soon as possible, be made available as housing accommodation.

The Abatement of Overcrowding.

Most of the records relating to overcrowded houses were destroyed in the raids of 1941, but there are many overcrowded cases in the City, as judged by the low standard of overcrowding in the 1936 Act. The percentage of overcrowding of the working class houses in 1937 was 6 per cent, as compared with 4.2 per cent for all County Boroughs.

It has not been thought advisable to tabulate a statement of the number and sizes of houses required to abate the known overcrowding, for the families occupying overcrowded houses constitute the mobile population, and such a statement would become out of date in a very short time.

3. REDEVELOPMENT OF INSANITARY AREAS.

Attention is called to the provisions of the Housing Act, 1936, relating to redevelopment areas, for it would be unwise to deal piecemeal with slum clearance without regard to redevelopment.

Where there is any planning scheme or reconstruction scheme in existence, or contemplation, the redevelopment plan would naturally follow such scheme.

The conditions which must exist in an area before it can be declared a redevelopment area are as follows :—

- (a) The area must contain 50 or more working class houses ;
- (b) At least one third of the houses must be overcrowded, unfit for human habitation, or so arranged as to be congested ;
- (c) The area is required to be used to a substantial extent for rehousing ;
- (d) It is expedient in connection with the provision of housing accommodation that the area should be redeveloped as a whole.

A large part of the Stonehouse scheme (illustrated between pp. 88 and 89 of " A PLAN FOR PLYMOUTH " might form a typical redevelopment area.

Where it is intended to put such schemes into operation, it is apparent that from the earliest stage of such proceedings the Housing Committee, Reconstruction Committee and Special Works Committee should work in the closest co-operation.

4. THE REPAIR OF INSANITARY HOUSES.

During the war years many difficulties have been encountered in securing essential repairs and maintenance to dwellings, and these are likely to continue until more materials and labour become available for this purpose. In the meantime there are many houses which are falling into disrepair and which are much below a suitable standard of housing accommodation, and lack proper conveniences, such as internal water supply, sinks and washing accommodation.

Many of the complaints received in the department relate to damage caused by enemy action, which is dealt with as soon as possible by the War Damage Officer, but only after duplication of visits by officials from the two departments.

It would, of course, be unwise to require extensive improvements to houses included in any future Reconstruction Scheme, Re-development Plan or Admiralty Extension, and this can be avoided by close co-operation of the various departments concerned.

5. THE REGISTRATION AND CONTROL OF HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

A very high proportion of houses in this City are let to more than one family, although they were not designed, and have not since been properly adapted, for this purpose. Many inconveniences are associated with such sub-letting, e.g. there is little privacy, there is often a lack of adequate water supply, sanitary accommodation and other conveniences, and there is also the tendency to overcrowd the dwellings. Such premises could, to some extent, be controlled by model bye-laws relating to houses let in lodgings, which would provide for :

“ The registration and inspection of houses let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family.

For enforcing drainage and promoting cleanliness and ventilation of such houses.

For requiring provision adequate for the use of and readily accessible to each family of

- (i) closet accommodation ;
- (ii) Water supply and washing accommodation ;
- (iii) Accommodation for the storage, preparation and cooking of food ;

and, where necessary, for securing separate accommodation as aforesaid for every part of such house which is occupied as a separate dwelling.

For the keeping in repair and adequate lighting of any common staircase in such houses.

For securing the prevention of, and safety from, fire.

For the cleansing and redecoration of the premises at stated times.

For the provision of hand-rails, where necessary, for all stair-cases of such houses.

For securing the adequate lighting of every room in such houses.

For the prevention of nuisances arising from or in any part of a building or an underground room in respect of which a Closing Order is in force.”

It would be desirable that a bye-law be inserted to the effect that no dwelling-house be let to more than one family without permission of the City Council, but, in any case, it is recommended that as soon as possible steps be taken to put into operation in the City suitable bye-laws relating to houses-let-in-lodgings.

SUMMARY.

1. There are at present 1,701 totally unfit houses (including approximately 250 in Dockyard Extension Area), occupied by 2,954 families.

It is estimated that there are a further 2,827 houses which are either now unfit but vacant, or likely to be unfit within 5 to 10 years, and occupied by 4,805 families.

2. To rehouse these families living in insanitary houses, 2,954 dwellings are required now, and a further 4,805 within 5 to 10 years.
3. When providing new dwellings, it is essential that sound housing management be exercised, in order to encourage the occupants to make proper use of their new housing amenities.
4. To avoid piecemeal slum clearance, the redevelopment procedure under the Housing Act, 1936, should be followed wherever possible.
5. No information is available as to the extent of present overcrowding of houses, but it is obviously a serious problem.
6. As early as possible the Council should make bye-laws under the Housing Act, 1936, to control houses-let-in-lodgings, i.e. occupied by more than one family.
7. The Council should make use of the powers given them by the Ministry of Health to requisition empty houses for the purpose of rehousing inadequately housed families, and, where possible, to acquire or requisition large houses for conversion into self-contained flats.

TOTALLY UNFIT HOUSES WHICH ARE OCCUPIED

Wards	Total No. of unfit houses	Total No. of families	Number of various sized families												
			1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons	9 persons	10 persons	11 persons	12 persons	13 persons
Charles	81	128	15	27	32	24	14	9	6	1	—	—	—	—	—
Compton	7	7	2	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Crownhill	108	143	18	41	39	23	14	6	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Drake	142	215	40	71	36	23	17	13	8	3	3	1	—	—	—
Ford	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Friary	4	4	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Keyham	12	14	3	7	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laira	62	77	4	30	20	9	5	2	4	—	1	1	—	—	—
Molesworth...	25	43	5	17	11	7	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Mt. Edgcumbe	230	443	90	117	84	65	41	24	11	4	2	4	1	—	—
Mutley	4	4	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nelson	70	152	47	42	30	18	9	1	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pennycross	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Andrews	50	65	6	24	12	7	5	5	1	4	1	—	—	—	—
St. Aubyn	226	534	133	113	104	81	51	22	15	9	4	2	—	—	—
St. Budeaux	14	15	3	1	4	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Peters	107	156	28	43	25	26	16	11	3	1	—	2	1	—	—
Stoke	7	7	1	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sutton	171	223	32	57	50	39	25	10	7	1	1	—	—	1	—
Valletort	157	277	79	65	47	37	19	13	3	6	2	4	1	—	1
Vintry	224	447	90	99	91	66	40	36	11	7	3	3	1	—	—
TOTALS	1701	2954	596	763	593	431	263	152	76	38	17	17	6	1	1

Factories. Details of the sanitary inspection of factories under the Factories Act, 1937, are given in the following tables :—

1. Inspections :—

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted.</i>
Factories with mechanical power	524	14	—
Factories without mechanical power	150	4	—

2. Defects found.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of Defects.</i>			<i>No. of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.</i>
	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	
Want of cleanliness ...	14	16	1	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—				
insufficient ...	1	—	—	—
unsuitable or defective	2	—	—	—
not separate for sexes	1	—	—	—
Other offences ...	4	—	—	—

Cremations. The number of cremations during the year 1944 was 723. Of this number 136 were in respect of residents of the City of Plymouth.

Up to the end of 1944 a total of 4,118 cremations were carried out since the Crematorium opened in 1934.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk Supplies. 660 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, of which 621 were found to be satisfactory, and 39 in an unsatisfactory state of cleanliness.

In addition, 176 samples were submitted to the Phosphatase Test, 10 being unsatisfactory.

The following tables show the number and results of samples submitted to :—

- (1) Methylene Blue Test.
- (2) Bacteriological Count and B. Coli Test.
- (3) Phosphatase Test.

(1) Methylene Blue Test :

<i>Description of Milk.</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples.</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk ...	297	285	12
Raw Milk	91	80	11
Pasteurised Milk ...	95	90	5
Totals ...	483	455	28

(2) Bacteria Count and B. Coli Test :

<i>Description of Milk.</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples.</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
Pasteurised Milk ...	161	150	11†
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk ...	4	4	—
Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk ...	4	4	—
Sterilised Milk ...	7	7	—
Raw Milk ...	1	1	—
Totals ...	177	166	11

† B. Coli present in 1/100 ml.

(3) Phosphatase Test :

<i>Description of Milk.</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples.</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
Pasteurised Milk ...	172	162	10
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk ...	4	4	—
Totals ...	176	166	10

Milk Bottles. Three empty milk bottles taken after passing through a washing machine were examined. The number of bacteria per ml. of capacity found was nil in 2 bottles and 4 in 1 bottle. B. Coli was absent in 1/10 ml. in all 3 bottles.

Examinations of Milk for Tubercle Bacilli. 52 samples of milk were examined biologically for the presence of tubercle bacilli, three being found positive.

All the positive samples were from milk supplied by farms inside the City. The Veterinary Inspector visited the farms, and two cows were found suffering from tuberculosis of the udder and were subsequently slaughtered. The milk from the other cows in the three herds was found to be negative.

The milk from approximately 948 cows has been examined biologically for the presence of tubercle bacilli, and out of this number two cows were found to be suffering from tuberculosis of the udder.

National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme. In October a Milk Sampler was appointed by the approved laboratory to obtain samples of milk in the Plymouth area from producer-retailers and from producers supplying small units. Prior to the appointment of this person, 230 samples of milk were obtained and forwarded to the approved laboratory for testing under this scheme.

Licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936. The following table shows the number of licences to use the various designations applied to milk issued during the year :

<i>Description of Licence.</i>	<i>No.</i>
Pasteuriser's licences	5
Retail Tuberculin Tested licences	19
Retail Pasteurised	1
Accredited Producer's licence	1
Total	26

FOOD AND DRUG SAMPLES REPORTED NOT GENUINE.

<i>Article</i>			<i>Nature of Adulteration</i>			<i>Action taken</i>
Raw milk	...	...	16%	added water...	...	Fined £5
do.	...	...		do.	...	Fined £1 10s. 0d.
do.	...	...	14%	do.	...	Fined £2
do.	...	...	11%	do.	...	Fined £1 10s. 0d.
do.	...	...	5%	do.	...	Fined £2
do.	...	...	3%	do.	...	Fined £2
do.	...	...	22%	deficient in fat	...	Fined £10
do.	...	...	7%	do.	...	Fined £5
do.	...	...	2%	do.	...	Fined £5
*Lemon Squash	...	...	33%	deficient in Crystalline Citric Acid.	...	Fined £5
*Blackcurrant Flavour	...	...	50%	do.	...	Fined £5
Raw milk	...	...	7%	added water	...	Letter of Caution
do.	...	...	7%	do.	...	do.
do.	...	...	6%	do.	...	do.
do.	...	...	6%	do.	...	do.
do.	...	...	4%	do.	...	do.
do.	...	...	3%	do.	...	do.
do.	...	...	2%	do.	...	do.
do.	...	...	1%	added water and also 14% deficient in fat.	...	do.
do.	...	...	28%	deficient in fat	...	do.
do.	...	...	11%	do.	...	do.
Tincture of Iodine	...	...	20%	excess of iodine and 33% excess of Potassium Iodide.	...	Informal sample. Letter of Caution.
do.	...	...	7%	excess of iodine and 12% excess of Potassium Iodide.	...	Informal sample. Letter of Caution.
Lime flavour cordial...	...	...	14%	deficient in Crystalline Citric Acid.	...	Informal sample. Letter of Caution.
Lime Juice Cordial	...	...	77%	deficient in Crystalline Citric Acid and 23% deficient in sugar.	...	Informal sample.

* Proceedings were taken in these two cases under the Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations, 1943, with the approval of the Ministry of Food.

During the year, in following up samples of milk below the standard, ten "Appeal to Cow" samples were taken from seven farms.

<i>Initial Sample</i>			<i>"Appeal to Cow" Sample</i>	
<i>Non-fatty solids</i>	<i>Milk-fat</i>	<i>Observations</i>	<i>Non-fatty solids</i>	<i>Milk-fat</i>
8.53%	2.67%	11% deficient in fat	8.46%	2.50%
7.9%	3.87%	7% added water	8.41%	2.94%
8.82%	2.34%	22% deficient in fat	8.37%	3.93%
8.07%	2.96%	5% added water	9.6%	3.75%
7.31%	3.16%	14% added water	9.4%	4.5%
8.24%	3.67%	3% added water	9.15%	4.3%
7.99%	3.08%	6% added water		
8.24%	3.10%	3% added water	8.19%	3.77%
8.16%	3.64%	4% added water	8.68%	3.86%
7.99%	3.65%	6% added water		
7.56%	3.08%	11% added water	8.9%	4.1%
7.14%	3.46%	16% added water		
9.08%	2.79%	7% deficient in fat		
9.28%	2.94%	2% deficient in fat	9.0%	4.6%

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Adulteration, etc. The various samples of food and drugs submitted for analysis during the year are classified in the following table, together with the number of the various articles which were found to be adulterated:—

SAMPLES TAKEN UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Articles	Official Samples		Informal Samples		Total No.
	Genuine	Adulterated	Genuine	Adulterated	
Almond essence	—	—	1	—	1
Aspirin tablets	—	—	13	—	13
Algerian wine	—	—	1	—	1
Ale	—	—	1	—	1
Ammoniated tincture of quinine	—	—	2	—	2
Apple juice	—	—	2	—	2
Butter	—	—	23	—	23
Beer	—	—	5	—	5
Baking powder	—	—	4	—	4
Bisurated magnesia	—	—	3	—	3
Coffee	—	—	14	—	14
Cocoa	—	—	8	—	8
Camphorated oil	—	—	2	—	2
Castor oil	—	—	11	—	11
Cod-liver oil	—	—	4	—	4
Cheese	—	—	23	—	23
Cordials	—	2	10	2	14
Condensed machine-skimmed milk	—	—	7	—	7
Condensed full-cream milk	—	—	4	—	4
Cake flour	—	—	3	—	3
Choc-Malt spread	—	—	1	—	1
Coffee and chicory	—	—	1	—	1
Dried machine-skimmed milk	—	—	3	—	3
Dandelion coffee	—	—	1	—	1
Egg preserver	—	—	1	—	1
Epsom salts	—	—	4	—	4
Evaporated milk	—	—	1	—	1
Flavourings	—	—	5	—	5
Flour	—	—	6	—	6
Full-cream milk food	—	—	1	—	1
Gin	1	—	1	—	2
Golden raising powder	—	—	1	—	1
Ground ginger	—	—	2	—	2
Ground nutmeg	—	—	3	—	3
Ground cinnamon	—	—	3	—	3
Gelatine powder	—	—	4	—	4
Junket powder	—	—	3	—	3
Jam	—	—	4	—	4
Kosher margarine	—	—	2	—	2
Lard	—	—	23	—	23
Lemon essence	—	—	3	—	3
Malted soya cream	—	—	1	—	1
Malt vinegar	—	—	10	—	10
Malt extract	—	—	3	—	3
Margarine	—	—	23	—	23
Meat and fish paste	—	—	26	—	26
Meat and vegetable extract	—	—	5	—	5
Malt cocoa spread	—	—	1	—	1
Mustard	—	—	5	—	5
Mixed spices	—	—	4	—	4
Milk of magnesia	—	—	4	—	4
Marmalade	—	—	1	—	1
Pickles	—	—	1	—	1
Pepper	—	—	15	—	15
Pasteurised milk	40	—	—	—	40
Pudding mixture	—	—	5	—	5
Raw milk	43	19	—	—	62
Semolina	—	—	6	—	6
Sausages	—	—	1	—	1
Sugar	—	—	13	—	13
Saccharin tablets	—	—	8	—	8
Soups	—	—	15	—	15
Sterilised milk	3	—	—	—	3
Self-raising flour	—	—	11	—	11
Sauce	—	—	1	—	1
Soya flour	—	—	3	—	3
Tuberculin-tested pasteurised milk	2	—	—	—	2
Tea	—	—	10	—	10
Tomato ketchup	—	—	1	—	1
Tincture of iodine	—	—	5	2	7
Vinegar	—	—	4	—	4
Vanilla essence	—	—	3	—	3
Vi-Cocoa	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	89	21	400	4	514

Inspection of Meat and Slaughter-houses.
There are four private slaughter-houses in use in the City, and these were visited on 2,955 occasions during the year.

Also 1,526 visits were made to food factories and butchers shops..

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.
The total number of carcases inspected at the Meat Market and in the private slaughter-houses during the year was 28,517, which was made up as follows :

Bovines	...	...	...	...	7,727
Calves	...	...	...	...	4,597
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	...	15,628
Pigs	...	...	...	...	565

The total weight of meat and offal condemned during the year from animals killed inside and outside the City was 354 tons 13 cwts 2 qrs.

This amount was made up as follows :

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows.</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
Number killed	3647	4080	4597	15628	565
Number inspected	11207		7385	4210	6836
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	243 $\frac{1}{4}$		51	106	26 $\frac{1}{2}$
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2247		55	705	189
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	7.15%	17.5%	.79%	2.5%	2.76%
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	226		4	—	12
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1205		2	—	672
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.9%	10.3%	.0003%	—	9.8%

**Foodstuffs
other than
Meat
(including
tinned goods).**

The number of inspections made of various food premises are shown in the table on page 48.

Arising out of these inspections, the following foodstuffs were condemned :—

TINNED GOODS :—

					<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Meat	...	...	...	...	5	1	1	3
Milk	...	...	...	...	1	3	2	8
Fruit	...	...	...	...		2	3	3
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	15	0	0	5
Soup	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	14
Fish	...	...	...	...	1	11	3	9
Jam	...	...	...	...		14	2	23
Various	...	...	...	...		12	1	16

PROVISIONS :—

						<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Tea	...	...	...	...		7	3	27
Cocoa	...	...	...	...		4	2	14
Corned beef	...	...	...	...		16	1	7
Potatoes	...	...	...	...		15	3	15
Fats	...	...	...	...		2	1	13
Bacon	...	...	...	...		6	0	13
Ham	...	...	...	...		1	5	18
Apples	...	...	...	...		1	2	0
Various	...	...	...	...		12	3	4

Fish Inspection. The following summary indicates the quantity of fish and shell-fish inspected during the year and the quantity found to be unfit for food :—

					<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Quantity of fish inspected	...	...	...	...	1826	10	0	0
Quantity of mixed fish found unfit for human food	...	...	...	...	5	3	0	0
Quantity of shell-fish found unfit for human food	...	...	...	...	Crabs, 1070			

Infectious Diseases

Incidence. The incidence of infectious disease in the City during 1944 is given in the following table, together with the figures for England and Wales and the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and the figures of the City for 1943 and 1942.

NOTIFICATIONS PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.

	<i>Plymouth</i> 1944	<i>England and Wales,</i> 1944	<i>126 County Boroughs and Great Towns</i> 1944	<i>Plymouth</i> 1943	<i>Plymouth</i> 1942
Typhoid Fever ...	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.02
Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0.07	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.17
Scarlet Fever ...	1.35	2.40	2.41	0.92	0.60
Whooping Cough ...	1.05	2.49	2.49	1.88	0.93
Diphtheria ...	1.13	0.58	0.67	1.53	1.78
Erysipelas ...	0.27	0.29	0.32	0.31	0.43
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	0.45	4.16	4.51	21.60	0.59
Pneumonia ...	1.29	0.97	1.13	0.93	0.74

With the exception of diphtheria, pneumonia and cerebro-spinal fever the incidence of infectious disease in the City during 1944 was lower than in England and Wales and the Great Towns. The incidence of pneumonia and cerebro-spinal fever was slightly higher than in the Great Towns.

The incidence of scarlet fever in the City during 1944 was considerably lower than it was in England and Wales, but it was higher than it was in the City during 1943 and 1942, and has shown a gradual rise during the last three years. 195 cases were notified during 1944, and 57 of these were removed to hospital, chiefly because of lack of accommodation for isolation at home. Most cases were of a mild type, and there were no deaths from the disease.

The incidence of measles was particularly low during 1944, being only about one-tenth of that of England and Wales. 65 cases were notified and 4 of them were removed to hospital. There were no deaths from measles in the City.

No cases of typhoid or paratyphoid fever or smallpox occurred during 1944.

Diphtheria and Immunisation. Whilst the incidence of diphtheria in the City during 1944 was higher than it was in England and Wales, it was lower than it was in the City during 1943 and 1942, and there has been a gradual decline in the incidence of this disease in the last three years.

163 cases of diphtheria were notified during 1944, 28 in children under the age of 5 years, 96 in children aged 5 to 15, and the remaining 39 in persons over the age of 15. 138 of the cases had not been immunised. All the cases were removed to hospital and 4 died. Two of the deaths occurred in children under the age of 5 years, and the other two in children between the ages of 5 and 15. None of the 4 children who died had been immunised.

The death rate from diphtheria in the City has shown a gradual decline in the last three years. In 1944 it was 0.03 per 1,000, compared with 0.07 per 1,000 in 1943 and 0.13 per 1,000 in 1942.

Diphtheria Immunisation was carried out as in previous years at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and at schools. 1,590 children were immunised at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and 535 at schools. In addition 90 children were immunised privately by general practitioners with material supplied by the Public Health Department.

The numbers of children immunised in the last five years are as follows :—

CHILDREN IMMUNISED

<i>Year.</i>	<i>At Maternity and Child Welfare Centres</i>	<i>At Schools</i>	<i>Privately by own doctor</i>
1940	2812	6765	—
1941	1233	1244	—
1942	2225	1029	98
1943	1541	1050	52
1944	1590	535	90

At the end of 1944 it was estimated that the percentages of immunised children in the City were as follows :—

Under 5 years of age	... ..	58.7%
Between 5 and 15 years of age	... ..	73.4%

Vaccination. Dr. J. Simpson White, Public Vaccinator for the Stonehouse district, resigned his appointment during the year, and Dr. G. A. Pratt was appointed to succeed him.

1,663 primary vaccinations and 85 re-vaccinations were performed during the year, and 55.14% of the infants born during the year were vaccinated.

The figures for the last five years are as follows :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Births</i>	<i>Primary vaccinations</i>	<i>Percentage of Children vaccinated</i>	<i>Re- vaccinations</i>
1940 ...	3620	1508	41.67	4
1941 ...	2020	511	25.30	3
1942 ...	2360	937	39.70	7
1943 ...	2754	1113	41.10	22
1944 ...	3016	1663	55.14	85

Scabies and other Verminous Conditions and the Control of Infestation. There was again a decrease in the incidence of scabies. 1,227 new cases were treated during 1944, compared with 1,843 in 1943 and 2,232 in 1942.

Ascertainment of cases of scabies and other verminous conditions is by School Nurses at routine cleanliness inspections at schools, School Medical Officers at schools and clinics, Medical Officers and Health Visitors at Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and home visiting, Sanitary Inspectors at Common Lodging Houses and other premises, Port Medical Officers and Port Sanitary Inspector on ships in the Port, medical practitioners in general practice, etc.

When a case is discovered, the premises from which the case has come are inspected by a nurse or sanitary inspector, enquiries are made about other persons residing in the premises, and contacts of the case are referred to the clinics for medical examination where necessary.

Treatment is given either at the special Scabies Clinic or at one of the School Clinics. All cases of Scabies are treated as a routine with Benzyl Benzoate Solution applied on three successive days. Most cases of infestation of the head are treated with Semprolia Hair Oil at one of the School Clinics. It is only rarely that a case of infestation of the body is found.

Disinfection of premises, contents and personal clothing is carried out when required, but is not done as a routine for all cases.

The Scabies Order, 1941, has proved very useful in the control of infestation. Examination and Treatment Orders are frequently served. Legal proceedings have not been necessary in any case.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES — AGE GROUPS, 1944.

	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-25 years	25-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65-up	Age unknown	Total
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	116	20	3	4	7	2	—	—	—	195
Scarlet Fever	—	4	9	9	21	62	34	17	6	10	4	2	—	—	163
Diphtheria	—	3	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	4	1	30	9	7	—	16	15	64	21	7	187
Pneumonia	5	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	19	17	11	—	—	—	49
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	10
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	11	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	9	4	12	8	—	11
Erysipelas	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39
Summer Diarrhoea	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	8
Whooping Cough	23	23	20	16	20	46	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	152
Measles	9	5	2	4	3	28	3	6	3	2	—	—	—	—	65
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1

The City Isolation Hospital and Lee Mill Hospital

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

DR. D. F. JOHNSTONE.

General Remarks.

There have been no major changes in the working of either the City Isolation Hospital or Lee Mill Hospital since the last report, except that the accommodation for patients at the latter hospital has been greatly improved by the opening of the new block in May, 1944. This building has been occupied throughout the remainder of the year and has proved very satisfactory in design and comfort. It consists of two separate units divided by a central boiler house. The east side contains 24 beds and is used for the treatment of the less severe types of diphtheria, and the west side is equipped on the cubicle principle, so that various diseases can be treated without risk of cross infection. This section contains 16 beds. During the time the new block has been in use, the old ward has been reconditioned, and this work is now nearly complete. In addition, improvements have been carried out in the grounds at Lee Mill, and both hospitals have grown fresh garden produce to the value of £140 which has been much appreciated by both patients and staff.

Plans have been submitted for the replacement of the kitchen at the City Isolation Hospital, and it is hoped that work will start in the early part of 1945.

In common with most other hospitals there has been difficulty in engaging suitable domestic staff in spite of the full adoption of the Hetherington report, but although there has been a considerable ebb and flow of domestic workers, on the whole, a reasonably good standard has been maintained.

All Nursing Staff are now working a 96-hour fortnight, and this has meant a considerable increase in numbers. Unfortunately it is still as difficult as ever to obtain the services of experienced Nurses for senior posts owing to the demands of the Services, and vacancies for Ward Sisters still remain unfilled.

The examination results have been very encouraging during the year, and 90% successes were secured in the Preliminary and 86% in the Final State Fever Examination.

General Statistics.	Cases admitted	...	...	487	
	Cases discharged	...	...	481	
	Service cases admitted	...		55	(Included
	Deaths	...	...	17	in above)

During the year 42 visits were made to the homes of patients at the request of Medical Practitioners in the district and 1,997 specimens were sent to the Central laboratory as follows :—

Swabs	...	...	...	...	1763
Fæces	...	...	...	...	5
Urines	...	...	...	...	11
Slides	...	...	...	...	116
Bloods	...	...	...	...	61
Cerebro Spinal Fluids			...	...	40
Other examinations	...	...	...	...	1

Scarlet Fever.

As in the two previous years, the routine admission of all cases of Scarlet Fever was discontinued, but all cases in which adequate isolation or treatment at home was impossible were admitted. A total of 88 cases were admitted, 74 from within the City boundary and 14 from outside the district, as under :—

OUTSIDE CASES.			<i>Amended Diagnosis.</i>
St. Germans R.D.C.	...	2	
Torpoint U.D.C.	...	1	Tonsillitis and Bronchitis, 1.
Torpoint R.D.C.	...	1	
Tavistock U.D.C.	...	3	Toxic Erythema, 1.
Plympton R.D.C.	...	3	Acute Rheumatoid Arthritis, 1.
Salcombe U.D.C.	...	2	
Tavistock R.D.C.	...	2	

Among the Plymouth cases, the diagnosis was altered in the following instances :—

Rubella	...	...	...	...	2
Toxic Erythema	...	...	...	...	1
Coryza	...	...	...	...	1
Urticaria	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
Tonsillitis with Toxic Erythema	...	...	...	...	1

In addition two cases were found to be suffering from Diphtheria as well as from Scarlet Fever.

Diphtheria. During the year there was a marked decline both in the number of cases admitted to the hospital and in the mortality. The disease was of a particularly mild type, especially in those who had been immunised. The total of 233 cases—316 cases in the previous year—and 10 cases of notified laryngeal diphtheria, constitutes the smallest number ever admitted in a single year. While local variations in the prevalence of the disease and the reduced war-time population may have been partly responsible for this notable decline in the incidence of the disease, it is probable that immunisation has played an important part. It has certainly contributed to a reduction in the mortality rate to a little over $2\frac{1}{2}\%$.

No. of admissions	... 233	No. of Plymouth cases	... 217
No. of deaths	... .. 5	No. of Outside cases	... 16

The outside cases were notified and the diagnosis amended as follows :—

<i>Admissions.</i>		<i>Disproved Diagnosis.</i>	
Plympton R.D.C.	... 9	Tonsillitis, 1 ; Tonsillitis with	
Kingsbridge U.D.C.	... 1	Varicella 1 ; Varicella, 1.	
St. Germans R.D.C.	... 3		
Torpoint U.D.C. ...	... 3		

Plymouth Cases. After observation the diagnosis was altered in the following 50 cases :—

Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	20
Peritonsillar Abscess	...	...	...	...	5
Retropharyngeal Abscess	...	...	...	...	1
Vincent's Angina	...	...	...	...	6
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	3
Glandular Fever	...	...	...	...	5
Coryza	...	...	...	...	2
Post Tonsillectomy Sloughs	...	...	...	...	2
Aveolar Abscess	...	...	...	...	1
Mumps	...	...	...	...	1
Broncho-Pneumonia and Pneumococcal					
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	1
Polio-Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria Carrier	...	...	...	...	1
Nil Abnormal	...	...	...	...	1

In addition, 3 cases were found to be suffering from Vincent's Angina, 3 from Scarlet Fever, 1 from Streptococcal Tonsillitis and 1 from Varicella, and 1 from Lobar Pneumonia with Meningism at onset, as well as Diphtheria.

Laryngeal Diphtheria. Altogether 10 cases were notified. Of these, 3 proved to be Laryngeal Diphtheria, 1 Catarrhal Laryngitis, 1 enlarged Bronchial Glands and Adenoids, 1 spasmodic Laryngitis and Broncho Pneumonia, 1 Broncho Pneumonia, 1 late Naso-pharyngeal Diphtheria and 1 Nasal Diphtheria. Two cases required tracheotomy and both died.

Other Diseases. During the year 131 Plymouth cases and 25 outside cases were treated as shown in the following tables :—

<i>Notified as :—</i>				<i>Amended Diagnosis.</i>		
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	11		Acute Polioencephalitis,	1 ;	
				Tetanus,	1 ; Coryza,	1 ;
				Acute Lymphocytic Menin-		
				gitis,	1.	
Typhoid Fever	1	Arteriosclorosis with Chronic		
				Constipation.		
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis		4		Enteritis,	1 ; Acute Poly	
				Neuritis.		
Encephalitis	1			
Dysentery (Bacillary)	...	1		Ulcerative Colitis,	1.	
Pertussis	1			
Varicella	2			
Erysipelas	3	Chronic Eczema and Gumma		
				of face,	1.	
Amœbic Dysentery	...	1				

Plymouth cases were admitted and treated as follows :—

Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	11	Cavernous Sinus Thrombosis, 1 ; Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis, 1 ; Hysteria, 1 ; Coryza, 1 ; T.B. Meningitis, 1 ; Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis, 2 ; Acute Polio-Encephalitis, 1 ; Lobar Pneumonia, 2 ; Cerebellar Abscess, 1 ; Acute Hepatitis, 1.
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Plymouth cases notified, admitted and treated as follows—*contd.*—

<i>Notified as :—</i>				<i>Amended Diagnosis.</i>
Encephalitis	...	...	1	Late Cerebro Spinal Fever, 1.
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	5			Polio-Encephalitis, 1 ; T.B. Hip, 1.
Erysipelas	...	...	16	Phlebitis, 1 ; Cavernous Sinus Thrombosis, 1 ; Chronic Otitis Media, 1.
Rubella	...	...	23	Scarlet Fever, 1 ; Acne Vulgaris, 1 ; Arsenical Dermatitis, 1.
Measles	...	...	11	Toxic Erythema, 1 ; Rubella, 2 ; Clothes Rash, 1 ; Gold Dermatitis, 1 ; Tonsillitis with Toxic Erythema, 2.
Measles with Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	1	
Mumps	...	...	10	
Pertussis	...	...	7	Lobar Pneumonia, 1 ; Bronchitis, 1.
Pertussis with Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	1	
Varicella	...	...	18	Coryza, 1.
Varicella with Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	2	
Typhoid Fever	...	...	3	Erythema Nodosum, 1 ; Lymphadenomal, 1 ; Meningococcal Septicæmia, 1.
Tonsillitis	...	...	3	Influenza, 1.
Influenza	...	...	2	
Gastro Enteritis	...	...	2	
Chronic Appendicitis	...	...	1	Gastritis, 1.
Vincent's Angina	...	...	1	
T.A.B. Reaction	...	...	1	
Otitis Media	...	...	1	
Erythema Multiforme	...	...	1	
Incomplete Abortion	...	...	1	
Septic Finger	...	...	1	
Septic Thumb with Lymphangitis	...	...	1	
Cut Left Thumb	...	...	1	

Altogether there was a total of 12 deaths from other diseases.

Venereal Diseases

REPORT OF THE V.D. MEDICAL OFFICER. DR. E. J. HYNES.

During the year, 935 new cases attended the Clinic; 49 less than in the previous year. There were 11,502 Out-patient attendances, a decrease of 331 compared with last year's figures. Of the 935 new cases, 568—i.e. 57%—were found not to be suffering from Venereal Disease. This no doubt was the result of the vigorous Press and Wireless propaganda. The following table gives the number of new cases treated, including those transferred from other centres and service cases referred to this Clinic for treatment:—

TABLE A.

Year	Syphilis				Chancroid				Gonorrhoea				Non-Venereal Disease				Totals			
	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals
1940	95	1	4	100	4	—	1	5	156	15	12	183	188	12	18	218	443	28	35	506
1941	118	10	8	136	4	—	1	5	193	17	11	221	173	16	13	202	488	43	33	564
1942	240	12	10	262	—	—	2	2	186	23	13	222	226	25	19	270	652	60	44	756
1943	282	11	8	301	—	—	—	—	146	19	8	173	405	52	53	510	833	82	69	984
1944	212	10	5	227	1	—	—	1	108	16	15	139	467	41	60	568	788	67	80	935

The following Table gives the number of New Cases of Syphilis and Gonorrhœa treated for the *First Time*, and does not include any cases transferred.

TABLE B.

Year	Syphilis.			Gonorrhoea.			Total, Male and Female
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1939 ...	51	47	98	201	52	253	351
1940 ...	49	24	73	123	41	164	237
1941 ...	38	26	64	115	51	166	230
1942 ...	45	49	94	111	80	191	285
1943 ...	32	50	82	91	40	131	213
1944 ...	18	59	77	70	55	125	202

Syphilis. 227 cases were treated during the year, 74 cases less than last year, of these cases only 25 are known to have been infected in Plymouth (4 Male, 21 Female).

The number of Male New Cases, 18 treated for the First Time, is the lowest for many years, no doubt due to the fact that new Male Cases in the Services make their first appearance at the Service Centres.

The number of New Female Cases, 59, is the highest for many years, and suggestive of the increase in the disease due to War conditions.

All infectious cases, if possible, are admitted to Hospital, and kept there during the period of infectivity. They are subsequently treated as Out-patients. 28 cases of Syphilis were admitted to Hospital during the year.

Gonorrhoea. 139 cases were treated during the year, 34 less than last year, and the lowest number for six years. 83 of these are known to have been infected in Plymouth. 44 cases of Gonorrhœa were treated as In-patients. All female patients suffering from Gonorrhœa in an acute form are treated as In-patients if possible. Out-patient treatment of these cases is difficult and unsatisfactory, also they are liable to convey infection to others.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. 17 cases were treated (including 2 from Devon County and 1 from Cornwall). These were admitted to the Royal Eye Infirmary, Plymouth. With the exception of one which died of Marasmus soon after admission, all recovered without impairment of vision.

Regulation 33b. The Almoner has been most useful in tracing contacts and following up defaulters :—

Number of cases visited in- formally 48 (after only one Form 1)	Number attended Clinic ... 26
Number visited formally ... 3 (after two Forms 1)	Number actually served ... 3 with Form 2
	Number prosecuted ... Nil

1945. Penicillin is now available for treatment of Syphilis and Gonorrhœa, and this treatment has now been commenced. This involves In-patient treatment. It should very materially reduce the duration of the diseases and consequently lead to reduction of the number infected.

Tuberculosis

REPORT OF THE TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER.

DR. H. T. CHATFIELD.

Notifications. During the year 1944, 271 cases were notified as suffering from Tuberculosis. This number consisted of 233 Pulmonary Cases (138 males and 95 females) and 38 Non-Pulmonary (15 males and 23 females).

This number shows a decrease of 25 on the previous year.

The details of these notifications during 1944 are as follows :—

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	—	—	1	—
1-5	1	—	5	2
5-15	2	1	2	6
15-25	42	43	3	11
25-35	26	21	2	2
35-45	39	20	1	1
45-55	14	5	1	—
55-65	10	5	—	1
65 and upwards	4	—	—	—
Totals ...	138	95	15	23

The numbers on the Notification Register at the end of the year were as follows :—

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Total cases.
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
541	397	938	158	190	348	1286

There were 8 Posthumous Notifications during the year 1944. This number comprised 2 Pulmonary and 6 Non-Pulmonary cases.

Deaths. One hundred and twelve cases who were on the Tuberculosis Dispensary Register died during 1944. This shows a decrease of 2 on the previous year.

The following tables show the number of Notifications and Deaths from Tuberculosis in Plymouth, and the corresponding figures for England and Wales since 1914.

NOTIFICATIONS.

<i>Year</i>	PLYMOUTH			ENGLAND AND WALES		
	<i>Respira- tory</i>	<i>Other forms</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Respira- tory</i>	<i>Other forms</i>	<i>Total</i>
1914 ...	370	131	501	76,109	23,388	99,497
1918 ...	417	130	550	71,631	18,942	90,573
1925 ...	389	103	492	60,770	20,667	81,437
1930 ...	252	76	328	54,331	18,670	73,001
1935 ...	217	54	271	45,015	14,608	59,623
1938 ...	209	42	251	37,879	12,810	50,689
1939 ...	194	51	245	34,930	11,276	46,206
1940 ...	192	62	254	36,151	10,421	46,572
1941 ...	194	43	237	39,499	11,465	50,964
1942 ...	243	57	300	40,629	11,990	52,619
1943 ...	240	56	296	42,410	11,932	54,342
1944 ...	233	38	271	—	—	—

DEATHS.

<i>Year</i>	PLYMOUTH			ENGLAND AND WALES		
	<i>Respira- tory</i>	<i>Other forms</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Respira- tory</i>	<i>Other forms</i>	<i>Total</i>
1914 ...	262	80	342	37,838	12,460	50,298
1918 ...	300	89	389	45,338	12,735	58,073
1925 ...	179	44	223	32,382	8,005	40,387
1930 ...	167	33	200	29,414	6,331	35,745
1935 ...	114	30	144	24,603	4,598	29,201
1938 ...	135	27	162	21,930	4,246	26,176
1939 ...	138	25	163	21,542	4,081	25,623
1940 ...	163	25	188	23,660	4,484	28,144
1941 ...	141	22	163	23,633	5,037	28,670
1942 ...	121	30	151	20,989	4,560	25,549
1943 ...	126	28	154	21,342	4,307	25,649
1944 ...	123	16	139	—	—	—

At the end of the year 1944 the following number of patients were on the " live " Dispensary Register.

	<i>Adults.</i>		<i>Children.</i>		<i>Totals.</i>
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	
<i>Pulmonary ...</i>	531	296	11	15	853
<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	58	50	30	42	180
<i>Totals ...</i>	589	346	41	57	1033
	935		98		

Dispensary. There were 1418 New Cases sent to the Dispensary by Medical Practitioners during the year. This figure shows an increase of 16 on the previous year.

The following table shews the number of cases referred to the Tuberculosis Officer each year since 1935, and the number of contacts who have been examined for the same period, together with the result of the clinical examination.

<i>New Cases.</i>					<i>Contacts.</i>			
<i>Year.</i>	<i>Definitely Tuberc.</i>	<i>Non-Tuberc.</i>	<i>Diagnosis not completed</i>	<i>Total examined</i>	<i>Definitely Tuberc.</i>	<i>Non-Tuberc.</i>	<i>Diagnosis not completed</i>	<i>Total examined</i>
1935	243	574	77	894	10	749	19	778
1936	231	559	91	881	8	386	33	427
1937	266	649	78	993	8	411	17	436
1938	232	707	104	1043	7	362	41	410
1939	297	721	108	1126	4	376	13	393
1940	247	677	123	1047	10	377	31	508
1941	208	585	53	846	5	163	4	172
1942	274	744	57	1075	5	224	7	236
1943	297	1015	90	1402	4	309	25	338
1944	260	1077	81	1418	12	378	10	400

Attendances. The number of attendances of patients at the Tuberculosis Dispensary during the year, excluding those who attended for X-ray examination, and which are shewn elsewhere, totalled 9,506.

Since 1935 the attendances have been as follows :—

1935	...	...	...	...	12,408
1936	...	...	...	...	10,212
1937	...	...	...	...	10,665
1938	...	...	...	...	9,638
1939	...	...	...	...	9,233
1940	...	...	...	...	8,599
1941	...	...	...	...	5,709
1942	...	...	...	...	7,270
1943	...	...	...	...	8,942
1944	...	...	...	...	9,506

Evening Clinic. The number of patients attending this clinic has increased considerably and this clinic is sometimes as heavy as the afternoon clinics at Beaumont House.

Domiciliary Visiting. *Tuberculosis Officer.* The Tuberculosis Officer paid 404 visits to patients at their homes or at one of the hospitals. The decrease in domiciliary visits is due to the petrol restrictions imposed.

Nurses and Health Visitors. The Nurses and Health Visitors paid 2,621 visits to patients during the year.

Consultations. The following consultations were held by the Tuberculosis Officer during the year :—

Personal	...	...	...	...	92
Other than personal (T145)	...	...	...	...	1402

Special Forms of Treatment. The Tuberculosis Officer gave the following special forms of treatment at the Dispensary during the year :—

Artificial Pneumo-thorax refills	...	...	...	516
Injections of Tuberculin	...	...	...	966

X-ray. The number of X-ray examinations made during the year amounted to 4097. The following table shews the number of examinations made each year since 1935 :—

1935	...	...	...	...	2,824
1936	...	...	...	...	3,005
1937	...	...	...	...	2,956
1938	...	...	...	...	3,344
1939	...	...	...	...	3,381
1940	...	...	...	...	3,617
1941	...	...	...	...	2,941
1942	...	...	...	...	3,901
1943	...	...	...	...	3,394
1944	...	...	...	...	4,097

Bacteriological Work. The number of specimens of sputa, etc., which were tested during the year amounted to 956. The following table shews the number of specimens of sputa sent for examination since 1935 :—

1935	...	...	...	...	1,334
1936	...	...	...	...	1,444
1937	...	...	...	...	1,567
1938	...	...	...	...	1,370
1939	...	...	...	...	1,259
1940	...	...	...	...	1,210
1941	...	...	...	...	762
1942	...	...	...	...	935
1943	...	...	...	...	1,036
1944	...	...	...	...	956

Institutional Treatment. The demand for Sanatorium Treatment is still urgent and there has scarcely been a period through out the year when there was not a “ Waiting List ” of patients seeking admission to either Didworthy or Mount Gold.

The pressure on Mount Gold was eased somewhat during the year when the bed accommodation was raised from 72 to 89.

The demand for beds is still increasing and it is necessary that further beds be provided for both early and advanced cases.

The position at Didworthy Sanatorium has been further complicated by the demand of Cornwall County Council requesting 21 beds at Didworthy Sanatorium, under a claim in the Agreement when Didworthy was taken over by Plymouth City Council.

Voluntary Organisations. *Tuberculosis Care and After-Care Committee.* This organisation has done valuable work during the year and has increased the radius of its activities by making the family the unit. This is as it should be and has been recommended by me for several years. The number of cases who have received assistance during the year amounted to 389.

Council of Social Service. This body has been most helpful in co-operating with the Tuberculosis Department and has given valuable help in many cases.

Allowances and Grants. The scheme is working smoothly and has been most helpful in getting patients to accept Sanatorium Treatment. It is hoped that the scheme will be further extended to include all patients suffering from any form of Tuberculosis.

The following details of the work carried out under Memorandum 266/T are given below.

One hundred and six applications for financial assistance were dealt with from those having institutional or domiciliary treatment, as given in the following table:—

Didworthy Sanatorium ...	...	...	22
Mount Gold Hospital ...	...	...	10
Domiciliary—Waiting admission to			
institutions ...	...	...	38
„ Discharged from institu-			
tions ...	...	...	34
„ Being treated at home			
(Observation) ...			2
			—
Total ...	...	...	106
			—

Ninety seven of the applications were eligible to receive allowances and financial assistance was granted in respect of the under-mentioned classes of payments :—

Maintenance Allowances	...	...	80
Maintenance and Discretionary Allow-			
ances	...	...	2
Discretionary Allowances	...	...	1
Special Payments	...	...	14
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	97
			<hr/> <hr/>

Discretionary allowances were granted in response to two applications for assistance to meet insurance premiums and one application for rent.

The Special payments granted to patients undertaking treatment in institutions were made in respect of the following applications :—

Pocket-money	...	...	...	11
Pocket-money and rent	...	...	1	
Pocket-money and insurances	...	...	1	
Pocket-money rent and Hire-Purchase				
charges	...	...	...	1

One hundred and five variations in payments were made to applications on account of various changes in circumstances.

Amounts of allowances paid :—

		£	s.	d.
Maintenance Allowances	...	4369	12	4
Discretionary Allowances	...	24	8	7
Special Payments	...	204	0	8
		<hr/>		
Total		£4598	1	7
		<hr/> <hr/>		

MOUNT GOLD TUBERCULOSIS AND ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

DR. D. F. JOHNSTONE.

**General
Remarks.**

The number of beds in the Orthopaedic Section of the hospital remains at 120, thirty of which are reserved for E.M.S. purposes. For several months in the year admissions were limited to urgent cases only, as instructions were received to keep as many beds vacant as possible. This precaution was taken as it was thought that casualties from London might have to be transferred when flying bombs were first used against the Capital and Southern England. It was not found necessary to utilise these beds and the ordinary routine was resumed as soon as permission was received. This accounts for the slightly lower total of admissions during the year.

Steps have been taken to upgrade the hospital as regards fracture work, and as soon as another Resident Surgical Officer is appointed additional work of this type can be undertaken.

Active rehabilitation continues on the lines alluded to in my last report and all patients are encouraged to keep active in mind and body as far as their medical condition permits.

The increased accommodation for pulmonary patients mentioned in the last report was provided by utilising the other half of B. Ward. Previously this was used as a lecture and class room for Nurses and it was found essential to build another lecture room at the far end, and in front of, the present Nurses' Home. The building was designed and erected most promptly and now furnishes a well equipped room, which may be used not only for lectures and demonstrations, but for teaching films and on occasions for special recreational purposes. It has already proved its use and has been found satisfactory in every way.

In common with most other hospitals there have been difficulties with domestic staffing and much of the work has been carried on by part-time workers. The absence of residential quarters for maids has made it difficult for the Ministry of Labour to direct domestic workers who live at a distance from the City, but in spite of these troubles, a reasonable standard of work has been maintained.

Fortnightly film shows are still continued and many concerts have been held in both sections of the hospital and patients much appreciate the kindness of those who have been good enough to provide these entertainments.

Nursing. During the year it has been found possible to introduce the 96-hour fortnight and this has meant an increase in staff. Recruitment of Students has been fair, but a number of potential trainees submitted by the Appointments Officer have been found unsuitable for training and have been drafted into the Civil Nursing Reserve. Three Student Nurses have completed their Tuberculosis training and went to the City Hospital in November last to complete their two years training under the scheme of affiliation.

In order to safeguard the health of the Nursing Staff, every new entrant is Mantoux tested and their chests X-Rayed. This latter examination is repeated every six months as long as they remain in the service of the hospital. Only those with a positive Mantoux test are employed in the pulmonary wards and no cases of tuberculosis have occurred in any of the staff nursing this disease.

Orthopaedic Hospital School. The good work carried out in the school continues as in previous years. There has been no outbreak of any infectious disease. The School was re-opened on the 3rd of January, 1944, with 18 pupils, 6 girls and 12 boys. During the year there were 40 new entries, 15 boys and 25 girls, making a total of 58 children who have received instruction during the year. Of these, 29 were discharged, leaving 29 on the register at the end of December. Of the total 58, 42 were of normal school age and 16 of nursery school age.

The School was opened 411 times with a total attendance of 8,569, making an average attendance of 20.87 out of a possible attendance of 21.34.

General Orthopaedic Work. There is a slight decrease in the numbers treated owing to causes mentioned in the opening paragraph of this report.

The total number of admissions of all types of cases was 418, 137 less than the previous year. Nevertheless, this is higher than in any year previous to 1943.

Admissions for the past five years are conveniently tabulated for comparison below :—

<i>Plymouth Cases.</i>	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940
Tuberculosis Department	58	61	65	61	47
M. & C.W. Department	7	8	9	5	6
School Medical Department	6	18	16	12	12
Other Plymouth Cases	127	148	134	78	47
Total Plymouth Cases	198	235	224	156	112
<i>Non-Plymouth Cases.</i>					
Devon County Council ...	24	19	22	22	38
Cornwall County Council	9	13	9	7	5
Exeter City	—	—	—	—	1
Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid	—	4	4	4	22
Other Cases	8	16	29	1	22
Total Non-Plymouth Cases	41	52	64	34	88
<i>E.M.S. Cases</i>					
Service	129	178	85	27	—
Civilian	50	90	59	—	—
Total E.M.S. Cases ...	179	268	144	27	—
Grand Total of Admissions	418	555	434	217	200
Total Discharges	439	554	388	230	245

The following table classifies the types of cases admitted during the last five years :—

	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940
1. Tuberculosis of Bones ...	114	68	92	93	138
2. After results of Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	11	6	6	9	9
3. Deformities—congenital and acquired ...	26	25	35	19	33
4. After results of injuries	37	26	32	34	57
5. Chronic and Acute Non- T.B. Osteomyelitis ...	12	21	11	7	16
6. Chronic Non-T.B.Arthritis	21	25	28	20	34
7. Rickets ...	2	2	2	5	7
8. Other conditions ...	41	75	61	30	32
9. Fractures ...	148	313	129	—	—

The total number of patient days was 31,405, and the average bed occupation 87.

The following is a summary of the work of the last five years :—

	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940
Surgical Operations ...	208	183	157	90	113
Manipulations under anæsthesia	99	139	95	29	97
X-Ray Examinations ...	1483	1715	979	506	625
Aspirations ...	19	57	28	53	66
Pathological Examinations ...	145	159	35	54	7

**X-ray
Department.**

A total of 1,483 X-rays were taken and 2,936 films used. A modern apparatus has been ordered to replace the present inadequate machine, but delivery has so far not been made. The work has been expanded to such an extent that the present facilities are no longer suitable and in the near future it is hoped that this department will be entirely re-organised. The following table gives an analysis of the work carried out in the department :—

	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940
Tuberculosis Department ...	338	284	236	205	51
M. & C.W. Department ...	48	26	19	22	33
School Medical Department	90	65	23	11	26
Other Plymouth Cases ...	410	464	320	112	151
Devon County Council ...	22	29	38	27	11
Cornwall County Council ...	7	12	11	12	18
Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid ...	—	—	9	—	44
Others ...	48	88	78	51	36
E.M.S. ...	520	739	245	55	33
Totals ...	1483	1707	979	495	403

**Out-Patient
Department.**

Mr. Capener holds an out-patient clinic twice a month on the second and fourth Friday at 2 p.m. Mr. Kennedy holds a fracture and orthopædic clinic each Monday at 10-30 a.m. for the supervision of cases discharged from hospital, and certain categories of E.M.S. patients. The following table shows the extent of this work over the last three years.

	1944	1943	1942
Number of initial examinations by the surgeons ...	285	336	278
Number of subsequent examinations by the surgeons ...	1435	1420	856

New patients (285) who attended were sent by the following :—

Tuberculosis Department ...	...	...	21
M. & C.W. Department ...	...	...	58
School Medical Department ...	...	...	2
Other Plymouth Cases ...	...	...	115
Plymouth Public Assistance ...	...	...	1
Devon County Council ...	...	...	1
Cornwall County Council ...	...	...	5
Cornwall County Council (School Medical Department) ...	...	...	1
E.M.S. ...	...	...	69
Other examinations ...	...	...	12

Physiotherapy Department. During the year, 209 in-patients and 281 out-patients received treatment in this department.

There were 5,333 attendances in all. The table shows the various departments from which these patients were sent :—

	<i>In-Patients.</i>	<i>Out-Patients.</i>
Tuberculosis Department ...	31	17
M. & C.W. Department ...	2	55
School Medical Department ...	6	8
Other Plymouth Cases ...	59	125
Devon County Council ...	4	—
Cornwall County Council (Cornwall County School Medical Officer) ...	1	2
Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid ...	—	—
Others ...	1	6
Staff ...	6	—
E.M.S. ...	98	68

During the year 2 patients have received gold treatment (myocrisin) for chronic non-tuberculous arthritis.

**Pulmonary
Tuberculosis
Section.**

The following table summarises the work carried out during the last five years :—

				1944	1943	1942	1941	1940
Admissions	...	...	...	125	136	120	91	93
Discharges	...	...	...	48	47	59	37	89
Deaths	...	...	...	57	50	41	29	45

The total number of in-patient days was 30,989, the average bed occupation was 85.

In 5 cases sufficient improvement took place to warrant transfer to Didworthy Sanatorium, but many cases were admitted in an advanced stage of the disease.

During the year 65 patients received treatment with gold preparation and Artificial Pneumothorax was induced in 15 cases, necessitating 300 refills.

Didworthy Sanatorium

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

DR. A. T. BETTINSON.

Total beds available—124, 70 for men and boys, and 54 for women and girls.

Admissions. The total number of admissions for the year was 138, 75 men, 61 women and 2 boys, of whom 136 were sent by the City of Plymouth, and 2 women were sent by the County of Cornwall.

Classification of Admissions :—	Men.	Women.	Boys.	
Pulmonary minus cases ...	33	37	1	51.45%
Pulmonary plus 1 cases...	8	4	—	8.7%
Pulmonary plus 2 cases...	27	16	—	31.16%
Pulmonary plus 3 cases...	5	1	—	4.43%
Non-Pulmonary cases ...	2	3	1	4.43%
Observation cases ...	—	—	—	—

N.B.—Of the cases admitted “Pulmonary minus,” 21 were found to be “Pulmonary plus” on investigation at the Sanatorium, this represents 29.57% of the “Pulmonary minus” cases admitted and 15.22% of the total number of patients admitted during the year.

Discharges. The total number of discharges for the year was 153. 81 men, 71 women and 1 girl, of whom 150 were sent by the City of Plymouth, and 3 women were sent by the County of Cornwall.

Classification of Discharges :—				Men	Women	Girls
Pulmonary minus cases.	Quiescent ....	....		14	15	1
	Very much improved			7	18	—
	Not improved			1	—	—
Pulmonary plus 1 cases	Quiescent ....	....		8	6	—
	Very much improved			5	2	—
	Not improved			—	—	—
Pulmonary plus 2 cases	Quiescent ....	....		7	2	—
	Very much improved			24	12	—
	Not improved			—	3	—
Pulmonary plus 3 cases	Quiescent ....	....		—	—	—
	Very much improved			2	4	—
	Not improved			4	4	—
Non-Pulmonary cases	Quiescent ....	....		2	—	—
	Very much improved			1	1	—
	Not improved			—	—	—
Deaths ....	....	....	....	6	4	—

Summarising this we get the following :—

34.64% cases discharged “ Quiescent ” (Pulmonary).

48.37% cases discharged “ Very much improved ” (Pulmonary).

7.83% cases discharged “ Not improved ” (Pulmonary).

1.3 % cases discharged “ Quiescent ” (Non-Pulmonary).

1.3 % cases discharged “ Very much improved ” (Non-Pulmonary.)

6.54% “ Death.”

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR WAS 263.

Bed Occupation.

The total number of patient days for the year was 45,660. An average struck over the whole year shows the average bed occupation to have been 125.09 days. The average length of stay of cases discharged during the year was 340.24 days.

The total number of bed patient days was 20,371 which represents 44.33% patients in bed daily of the total number of cases treated.

Pathological Tests.

The total number of sputum examinations during the year was 538.

The total number of urine examinations during the year was 738.

The drinking water used in the Institution from all sources of supply is bacteriologically analysed periodically and has always been found to be of a very good standard.

The milk produced at the Sanatorium and the milk supplied by contract has been periodically bacteriologically analysed and it has always been found to be satisfactory.

Specialised Treatments.

(a) *Artificial Pneumothorax Therapy.*

Total number of patients treated during the year	40
Total number of attempted inductions	... .. 29
Number of successful inductions	... .. 25
Number of unsuccessful inductions	... .. 4

(Due to adherent Pleura.)

This has necessitated a total of 468 refills.

(b) *Aurotherapy.*

During the year we treated 45 patients by injections of gold salts (Aurotherapy).

I am pleased to say that none of these cases developed any serious complications during treatment by this method.

The total number of intra-muscular injections of gold salts during the year was 511.

(c) *Tuberculin.*

We have treated a number of Non-Pulmonary forms of Tuberculosis with the above preparation and the results have been very satisfactory.

The total number of cases treated by this method was 7.

(d) *Aspirations of the Chest, 21.*

(e) *Promanide.*

We have treated one case of Tuberculous Empyema by Aspiration and injections of Promanide and this case showed marked improvement.

(f) *Thoracoplasty — 2.*

(g) *Phrenic Evulsions — 10.*

(Phrenic Evulsions and Thoracoplasty operations were undertaken by Mr. Edric Wilson at the City Hospital, Plymouth, the patients being temporarily transferred).

Farm and Gardens.

I am very pleased to say that the general work on the Farm and in the Gardens continues to give great satisfaction. Our cows provide us with approximately one-third of our requirements of milk. Most of the vegetables required by the Institution, including potatoes, are provided by our own Farm.

**Occupational
Therapy.**

During the latter part of the year we were successful in obtaining the services of a Handicrafts Instructor. It will be remembered that our Handicrafts Department had to be closed down when Mr. Cox left us two years ago to take a similar post at Surrey County Sanatorium and we were unable to fill the vacancy.

We have well equipped Workshops for metalwork and woodwork which are of great therapeutic benefit to the up-patients. We have repaired and reclaimed much of the Sanatorium furniture and made such useful articles as bedrests and bed tables.

The Handicrafts Department also caters for the bed patients, both Men and Women, who do leatherwork, rug-making, perspex modelling, tapestry and embroidery work, dress ornamentation, stringwork, slipper making and toy making.

I cannot express too highly the benefit accrued to the patients in their mental outlook since they have again been able to have a Handicrafts Department again functioning. I should like to express our deep appreciation to the British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John who have supplied us with large quantities of materials for our Ex-Service cases.

I should also like to express our appreciation of this Organisation in supplying cigarettes, books and other comforts for our ex-service cases.

**Workers'
Educational
Association.**

During this year we were successful in obtaining the services of the Workers Educational Association who have arranged weekly lectures for the patients. Among the lecturers were Mrs. L. K. Elmhirst who gave a course of lectures on America and W. B. Curry, Esq., M.A., B.Sc., who gave a course of lectures on (1) European problems, (2) Post War reconstruction, (3) Unemployment and (4) The Population question.

These lectures have formed the basis of discussion groups among the patients and are greatly appreciated.

It is hoped that in the near future we shall be able to commence definite scholastic courses for patients while undergoing treatment at the Sanatorium.

Patients' Entertainment. Patients' entertainment has been well catered for this year.

In addition to the fortnightly film shows, the Ministry of Information have kindly given us several exhibitions of their films.

We have had one or two Concert parties every month and I should like to express our appreciation of Mr. S. F. Gale, the Methodist Lay Reader, who has been instrumental in arranging many of the Concerts for us.

In addition we hold a fortnightly mixed Whist Drive for the patients. Prizes of Savings Stamps are given and the cost is defrayed from the Patients Canteen Fund.

Staff Entertainment. The Staff Social Club has had a very successful year. Entertainments such as Dances and Whist Drives have been held each fortnight at which the staff invite their friends.

Building Construction. A new Nurses' Home is under construction which will house 21 members of the Nursing Staff.

This is situated outside the Sanatorium proper which is a great advantage.

This building should be completed early in 1945.

Part of B1. Block has been converted into an Xray Department and we are awaiting the delivery of the Xray Plant.

This has temporarily necessitated a reduction in the total number of beds.

Recruitment of Staff. Staffing difficulties have been very acute this year, but I am pleased to say we have managed to carry on and have not had to consider the closing of any Wards owing to shortage of staff, as have many Sanatoria up and down the Country.

I would recommend the Committee to consider the question of erecting Cottages in the vicinity of the Sanatorium for occupation by the Male Staff as I feel that we should then attract a much better type of man to work in the Institution.

The City General Hospital

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

MR. E. G. STANLEY.

The following table summarises certain statistics of a general nature on the work of the City Hospital during the year ended 31st December, 1944 :—

(1)	Number of admissions (including 327 infants born in the Hospital)	...	...	...	...	2943
(2)	Number of discharges	...	...	...	...	2499
(3)	Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	438
(4)	Patients treated to a conclusion	...	...	...	...	2937
(5)	Duration of stay of patients treated to a conclusion :					
	(a) Under four weeks	...	...	...	...	2216
	(b) Over four weeks and under thirteen weeks	...	...	...	...	569
	(c) Thirteen weeks or more	...	...	...	...	152
(6)	In-patient days	...	...	...	...	93,029
(7)	Average duration of stay	...	...	...	...	35.7 days
(8)	Number of available beds	...	...	...	...	361
(9)	Number of beds occupied :					
	(a) Average	...	...	...	...	254.17
	(b) Highest—on 18/10/44	...	...	...	...	298
	(c) Lowest—on 8/6/44	...	...	...	...	205
(10)	Number of women confined in Hospital	...	...	...	...	345
(11)	Number of live births	...	...	...	...	327
(12)	Number of stillbirths	...	...	...	...	23
(13)	Deaths of newly born (under 4 weeks)	...	...	...	...	26
(14)	Number of maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	9
(15)	Number of surgical operations	...	...	...	...	1198
(16)	Number of X-ray investigations	...	...	...	...	1535
(17)	Number of pathological investigations	...	...	...	...	3425
(18)	Number of patients treated in Dental Department (including E.M.S. cases)	...	...	...	...	318

Nurses' Training School. The following results were obtained in the Nurses' Training School during the year :—

(A) STATE REGISTRATION EXAMINATIONS.

	<i>Entered.</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Re-entries.</i>
Preliminary	22	12	1
Final	18	16	3

(B) CERTIFICATE OF THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD. PART I.

<i>Entered.</i>	<i>Passed.</i>	<i>Re-entries.</i>
30	21	2

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Patients remaining in hospital—1st Jan., 1944 ...	249
Patients admitted	2616
Births	327
	<hr/>
	3192
Patients discharged	2499
Patients died	438
	<hr/>
Patients treated to a conclusion	2937
Patients remaining in hospital—31st Dec., 1944 ...	255

ADMISSIONS—AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Births	163	164	327
Under 1 year	95	62	157
1–3 years	69	37	106
3–5 years	30	26	56
5–11 years	182	185	367
11–16 years	45	45	90
Adults	543	1297	1840
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1127	1816	2943
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Of the 2,271 patients admitted for treatment during the year (excluding maternity cases and births), 776 were under the age of 16 years (34.16%) and 686 were under the age of 11 years (30.2%).

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS.

Total number of deaths 438.

<i>Ages.</i>				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Under 1 year	...	...		25	22	47
1 to 5	„	...	...	5	1	6
5 to 10	„	...	...	1	1	2
10 to 15	„	...	...	1	1	2
15 to 25	„	...	...	7	5	12
25 to 35	„	...	...	1	13	14
35 to 45	„	...	...	7	15	22
45 to 55	„	...	...	21	14	35
55 to 65	„	...	...	48	28	76
65 to 75	„	...	...	58	41	99
Over 75	„	...	...	74	49	123
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				248	190	438
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Deaths within 24 hours of admission—79=18%.

Causes :—

Neonatal 15

Terminal—

Acute disease 31

Chronic Disease 33

ANALYSIS OF WORK OF DEPARTMENTS.

General. The inset table gives details of the work of all the departments of the hospital in the form of a classification of all patients treated to a conclusion.

OPERATIONS IN MAIN THEATRE:

Abdominal: Major	...	...	...	273
Gynæcological:				
Major	...	...	...	38
Minor	...	...	...	172
Cæsarean Sections	...	...	...	68
Genito-Urinary:				
Major	...	...	...	15
Minor	...	...	...	98
Ear, Nose and Throat	...	...	...	335
Minor operations not included above	...			173
Others:—Thoracic	...	...	...	17
Amputations	...	...	...	6
Pinning of fractured femurs	...			3
Total	...	...	...	<u>1198</u>

There were 140 emergency operations = 10.68%.

Maternity Department.	Number of available beds	...	...	18 up to
	1st December, then increased to	36		
	Number of patients admitted, including babies	...	...	403
	Number of cases delivered by:			
	(a) Midwives	...	...	232
	(b) Doctors	...	...	113
	Number of cases discharged undelivered...			45
(A) ANTE-NATAL DEPARTMENT.				
	Number of sessions	...	...	63
	Number of attendances	...	...	2306
	Average number of attendances per session			36.5
	Number of expectant mothers seen	...		762
	Average number of attendances made by each	...	...	3
	Referred for X-ray examination	...		63
	Referred to Consultant Obstetrical Clinic			22
	Referred to V.D. Clinic	...	...	3

Consultant Obstetrical Clinic :

New Cases	...	...	...	88
Total attendances	...	...	...	183

(B) IN-PATIENT DEPARTMENT.

(1) *Mothers :*

345 Mothers gave birth to 352 children.
There were 7 cases of twin Birth.

How Admitted :

Through Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	...	240
Emergency	...	...	...	137

Parous State :

Primipara	...	...	...	...	192
Multipara	...	...	...	...	153

Presentations :

Vertex	...	...	...	...	...	311
Breech—Uncomplicated	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ Complicated	...	...	...	...	...	27
B.B.A.	...	...	...	...	...	1

(2) *Obstetrical Operations :*

Instrumental deliveries	...	...	...	30
Surgical induction of labour	...	...	...	20
Cæsarean operations	...	...	...	68
Internal Version	...	...	...	1
Craniotomy	...	...	...	2

Maternal deaths (including patients admitted before and after confinement)	11
--	-----	-----	-----	----

(3) Maternal Deaths

<i>Whether Admitted from A.N. Clinic.</i>	<i>Mode of Delivery.</i>	<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Number of Cases.</i>
No.	Undelivered.	Pneumo-coccal meningitis ...	2
No.	Normal- premature.	Pulmonary embolism ...	1
No.	Breech de- livery at home.	Acute bacterial endocarditis; Puerperal septicæmia ...	1
Yes.	Breech de- livery pre- mature.	Uræmia, necrosis of liver, certical necrosis of kidney ...	1
No.	Forceps delivery.	Puerperal septicæmia ; Prolonged labour followed by difficult forceps delivery ...	1
No.	Premature delivery.	Primary cardiac failure due to toxæmia and anæmia ...	1
Yes.	Normal.	Anoxæmia and shock after delivery of macerated stillborn twins ...	1
No.	—	Incomplete abortion ; patient died under anæsthetic ...	1
No.	Cæsarean operation.	Cardio-respiratory failure ; asthma and shock from ante-partum hæmorrhage and Cæsarean operation under general anæs- thetic ...	1
No.	Do.	Cardio-vascular failure. Intestinal obstruction ; fæcal fistula forma- tion after Cæsarean operation 19 days previously ...	1

(C) POST-NATAL DEPARTMENT

Number of new cases ... 334

Total attendances ... 363

(4) Infants.

Births :—

(a) Premature ... 63

(b) Mature ... 289

Survival :—

(a) Born and survived ... 304

(b) Born and died (within 4 weeks) 26

(c) „ „ „ (within 10 days) ... 24

Stillbirths ... 23

Thus of 352 infants born, 23 were stillborn, 6.5%. Of 330 infants born alive, 26 died, 7.8%.

(5) *Causes of Neonatal Deaths (i.e. within 10 days).*

Prematurity	16
Obstetrical Traumatism	4
Atelectasis	1
Malformations	3

(6) *Puerperal Pyrexia.*

Sixteen cases delivered in the hospital were pyrexial (Ministry of Health standard).

Radiological Department.	Total Radiographic Examinations ...	1535
	Chest Radiographs	711
	Lipiodol Examinations	1
	Opaque Meal Examinations ...	203
	Opaque enemata	17
	Cholecystograms	30
	Intravenous pyelograms	36
Dental Department.	Patients examined	318
	Scalings	19
	Extractions	98
	Fillings	32
	Dentures	17
	Denture repairs	5

ANNUAL PATIENT STATISTICS.*

	<i>Year ending</i> 31/12/42	<i>Year ending</i> 31/12/43	<i>Year ending</i> 31/12/44
Admissions	2774	2712	2616
Births	186	237	327
	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	2960	2949	2943
Discharges	2443	2467	2499
Deaths	435	455	438
	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	2878	2922	2937
Patient days	83,754	78,089	93,029
Daily average Beds occupied	223	241.3	254.17
Highest Number ...	287	282	298
Lowest Number ...	163	144	205
Average stay	31.09 days	26.47 days	31.6 days

* These figures do not include patients treated under the E.M.S. Scheme

CLASSIFICATION OF IN-PATIENTS WHO WERE DIS-
CHARGED FROM OR WHO DIED IN THE CITY HOSPITAL
DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1944.

(EXCLUDING E.M.S. PATIENTS.)

<i>Disease Groups.</i>	<i>Children</i>		<i>Adults</i>	
	<i>Dis- charged.</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Dis- charged.</i>	<i>Died.</i>
Infectious disease ...	5	—	—	—
Influenza ...	3	—	5	—
Tuberculosis—				
Pulmonary ...	—	2	19	4
Non-pulmonary ...	4	4	5	1
Malignant disease ...	—	—	66	74
Rheumatism—				
Acute rheumatism (rheu- matic fever) together with sub - acute rheumatism and chorea ...	4	2	4	—
Non-articular manifesta- tions of so-called “ rheu- matism ” (muscular fibro- sitis, lumbago and sciatica) ...	—	—	10	—
Chronic arthritis ...	—	—	8	—
Venereal disease ...	8	—	48	—
Puerperal Pyrexia—				
(a) Women confined in the hospital ...	—	—	16	—
(b) Women confined else- where ...	—	—	21	—
Other diseases and accidents connected with pregnancy and childbirth ...	—	—	184	5
Mental diseases—				
(a) Senile Dementia ...	—	—	9	—
(b) Others ...	—	—	6	—
Senile decay ...	—	—	32	4
Accidental injury and vio- lence ...	7	1	24	3
Diseases not included above—				
Disease of the Nervous Sys- tem and Sense Organs ...	25	2	56	60
Disease of the Circulatory System ...	7	2	86	112
Disease of the Respiratory System ...	42	7	102	60
Disease of the Genito-urinary System ...	22	—	177	18
Disease of the Digestive Sys- tem ...	70	11	200	33
Disease of the Skin ...	44	1	30	2
Tonsils and Adenoids ...	336	—	5	—
Discharges from Maternity Ward—				
(not included above)				
Mothers ...	—	—	339	6
Infants ...	304	26	—	—
Nursery Children and mothers	125	—	4	—
Other diseases not classified	14	—	23	—
TOTALS ...	1020	58	1479	382

Comments. During the year 1944 the work of the hospital has continued at full pressure, and there has been no relief from the severe strain which has been put upon the available accommodation, especially during the winter months.

The number of admissions, including patients admitted under the Emergency Medical Services Scheme, was 3,514, an increase over last year. This is largely due to the return to Plymouth of the large number of evacuees who left at the height of Plymouth's bombing period.

Chronic Sick Patients. As in former years, it is again necessary to refer to the ever-increasing problem of the shortage of accommodation for the chronic sick patient. This problem has become much more acute than in previous years and it has been necessary on several occasions to admit to the acute wards, those patients who should be in the chronic wards.

It is understood that at no distant date this problem will be solved by transferring the chronic sick to far better accommodation outside the City boundaries, the present ward block, which is so unsuitable, being demolished.

Maternity Accommodation. It was possible in December to increase the maternity accommodation from 18 to 36, thus bringing into full use the new Maternity Block opened in February, 1941. It will be recalled that in March, 1941, the Maternity Block suffered severely through enemy action and it was not possible to open it completely for several months. Following repair, the ground floor was reserved for gynaecological patients and sick children, and the upper floor utilised for maternity cases. However, in December it was decided to open up the whole block once more as a maternity ward, owing to the increasing demands upon the maternity accommodation.

Dr. Mabel Ramsay has retired after a full term of years of excellent service as Consulting Gynaecologist and Obstetrician and her place has been taken by Mr. Concanon.

A whole-time Resident Obstetric Officer has been appointed in charge of this Unit, which has been recognised by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists as a teaching centre.

The emergency Maternity Home at Flete, Modbury, continues to give excellent service, more than 500 patients being admitted during the year, including a large number of patients from the Devon County Council .

Children's Ward. A Ward of 16 cots, with an isolation unit of 3 cots, after complete painting and redecoration, has been brought into service. It will be cubicled later.

Warleigh House Nursery. In October it was decided to transfer the administration of the Children's Nursery at Warleigh House to the Maternity and Child Welfare Department, and all admissions to Warleigh House are now arranged through that Department.

Physio-therapy Department. The Massage and Physio-therapy Department has again had very good use during the past year.

An Assistant Physio-therapist will be appointed later to deal with the increase of work.

Essential and valuable equipment has been added, notably an ultra-short wave Diathermy Unit.

Surgical Unit. The Sterilizing room has been re-arranged, a Surgeon's waiting and changing room provided, and much obsolete surgical equipment replaced by new and modern instruments.

A small ward has been painted, decorated and furnished as a Sick bay for our Nursing Staff.

I acknowledge and greatly appreciate the co-operation given to me by the Matron, Sisters and Nursing Staff in the care of patients in general. In particular, I thank my co-workers, my Theatre Sister and Surgical Ward Sisters, for their understanding and able team-work. To this the patients and I owe the results achieved in this department of the Hospital.

Port Health Department.

REPORT OF SENIOR ASSISTANT PORT MEDICAL OFFICER.

DR. T. H. HARRISON.

General Arrangements. There were no alterations in the general arrangements during 1944, and the number of staff remained reduced.

The amount of shipping entering the Port increased considerably, however, during the year, the increase being most marked between June and August, and some difficulty was experienced in dealing with the extra work involved. This was partly due to the lack of the launch which was requisitioned by the Admiralty in 1941.

For various reasons it was not found possible to make an inspection of all vessels entering the Port, but food inspection was continued as in previous years and more food was inspected than in 1943.

Details of the amount of shipping entering the Port during the year, the character of the trade of the Port, and the number of aliens inspected, cannot be disclosed but the following information is available :—

TABLE A.

Inspection of Vessels.

<i>Number of Vessels Inspected by</i>		<i>Number reported to be defective</i>	<i>Number of Vessels on which defects where remedied</i>	<i>Number of Vessels reported as having infectious disease during voyage</i>
<i>M.O.</i>	<i>S.I.</i>			
51	823	41	36	1

Infectious Diseases.

During the year one vessel reported on arrival at the Port that infectious disease had occurred during the voyage. This vessel, which arrived “from foreign” in October, reported that a passenger had died during the voyage from an illness which was suspected to be plague and had been buried at sea. The vessel was examined and the 1,760 passengers and 285 crew medically inspected but nothing abnormal was discovered. There was no disembarkation or unloading at the Port nor any contact with the shore except by officials of the Port Health Department and the vessel proceeded after disinfection had been carried out. A gland removed from the patient and preserved by the ship’s surgeon was examined by the City Pathologist but no evidence of plague was found.

No other cases or suspected cases of any of the five epidemic diseases, or any of the notifiable diseases arrived at the Port during the year, but one case of suspected diphtheria occurred on a vessel whilst in Port and was removed to the Isolation Hospital, where, after observation, the diagnosis was amended to tonsillitis.

No plague infected rats were discovered nor was any unusual mortality reported amongst rats on any vessel.

TABLE C.
Infectious Disease.

<i>Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels</i>							
<i>Disease</i>							<i>Number of Cases</i>
V.D.	...	...	...	...	...	...	130
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Rodent Control. (1) *On Vessels.*—All vessels found to be infested by rats were subjected to surveillance during their stay in Port.

Twenty-one vessels were found to be infested during the year. Five of them (all coasters) were fumigated with sulphur dioxide by the staff of the department and traps and baits were laid on the remainder and 219 rats were destroyed. Vessels often sail, however, before the final results of fumigation or baiting can be ascertained and many dead rats are not discovered before a vessel sails so that the number of rats destroyed probably greatly exceeds that of the number of bodies recovered whilst the vessels are in port.

(2) *In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses.*—Frequent visits were made during the year to all premises in the Port area. Rodent control in this area is still difficult on account of the damage caused by enemy action but most occupiers of premises reported a considerable improvement during the year. The methods used were trapping, baiting, pre-baiting and gassing.

Drakes Island was specially visited during the year at the request of the Military Authorities and a survey of the Island was made. Instruction in the method of open pre-baiting to holes and runs on the beaches, cliffs, etc., was given to military personnel and successful results were obtained by them.

The following is a summary of the work carried out in connection with rodent control:—

Baits laid	...	...	...	...	8203
Baits disappeared—					
Presumably taken by rats	...	...			2970
Rats known to have been destroyed	...				1032

The figure 1,032 only includes rats where the bodies have been found. The number destroyed is probably three times as great.

TABLE H.

Deratisation Certificates and
Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued.

<i>Number of deratisation certificates issued</i>	<i>Number of deratisation exemption certificates issued.</i>	<i>Total number of certificates issued</i>
Nil	11	11

Deratisation Exemption Certificates were refused in three cases, but no arrangements could be made for fumigation as the vessels were urgently required.

HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES

TABLE J.

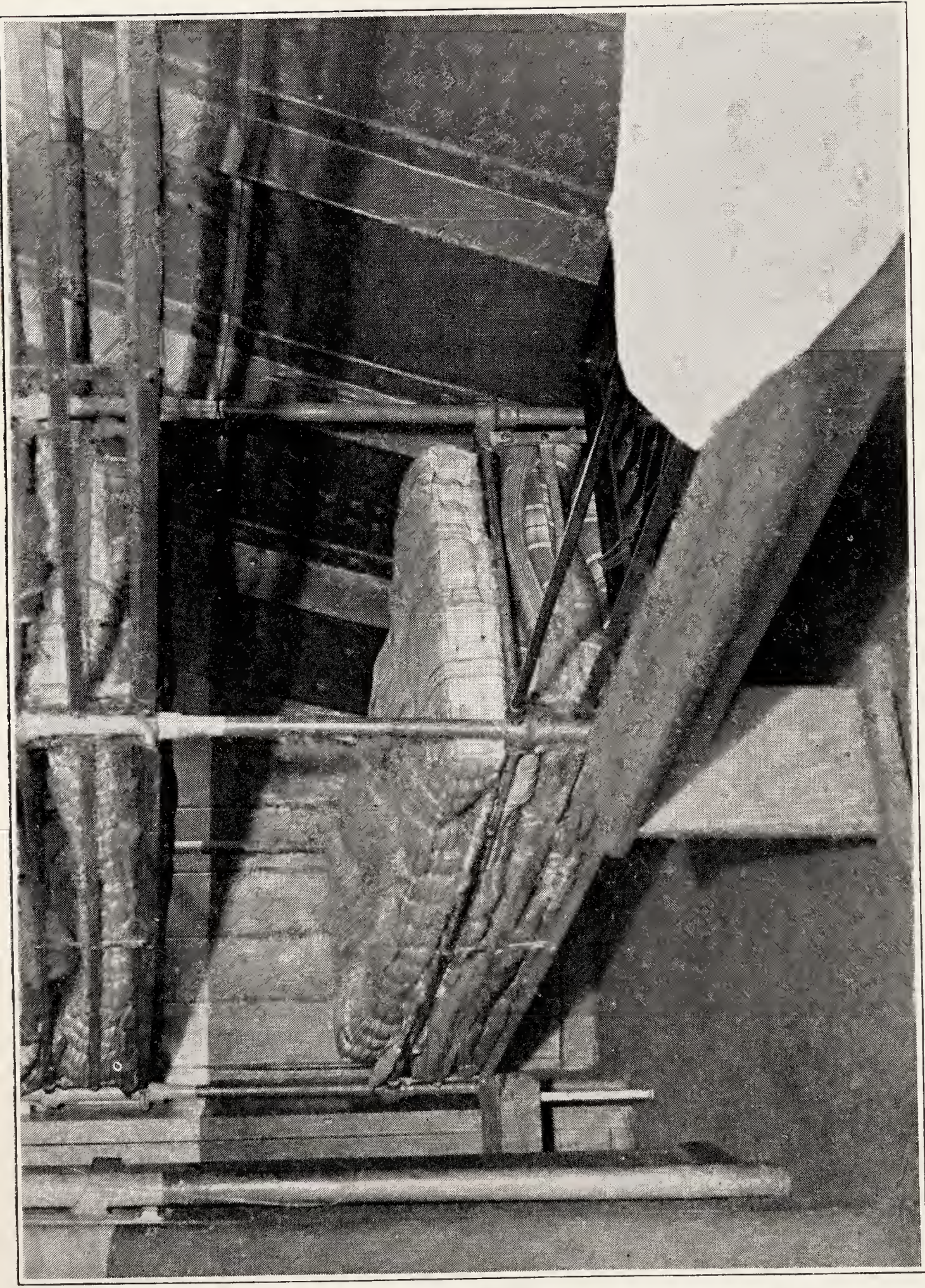
Classification of Nuisances.

<i>Nationality of Vessels</i>	<i>Number inspected during the year</i>	<i>Defects of original construc- tion</i>	<i>Structural defects through wear and tear</i>	<i>Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health</i>
British	431	3	14	32
Foreign	392	7	2	15

During the year fifteen vessels were fumigated to destroy bugs and nine to destroy cockroaches.

Five notices to export were served under the Parrots (Prohibition of Import) Regulations, 1930.





BRITISH COASTER BUILT 1919. (Registered Tonnage 424.)

The photograph illustrates a forecabin in which four men have to live, sleep, eat, wash and bath. The approximate space is 570 cubic feet which compares unfavourably with an average space of 1 100 cubic feet for a room used as

*The following report has been written by the Port Health Inspector,
Mr. L. N. Tope.*

SANITARY INSPECTION OF SHIPS

ACCOMMODATION FOR CREWS

The Port Health Authorities have, over a number of years, repeatedly drawn attention to the generally unsatisfactory standard of crews' accommodation, and the following notes have been made upon conditions as I have found them at Plymouth.

The standard of accommodation and its cleanliness on many British vessels, particularly of the coasting type, leave much to be desired. The most recent regulations relating to crews' accommodation were made by the Board of Trade in 1937, but there are in the regulations very many omissions, and in any case many of the provisions are mere recommendations and not, therefore, enforceable. Only obvious nuisances can be dealt with under the Public Health Acts and the procedure takes so long that it is impossible to serve and enforce a local order on a ship which remains in port only a few days.

The following conditions are typical of many of the old British vessels employed in the coasting trade :—

The men eat, sleep, read, wash, and dry their wet clothes in the same compartment. There is no reasonably comfortable seat so the seamen lie on their bunks. More than one watch use the same accommodation, so that one may find a man trying to sleep, within a foot or two of him other men having a meal, and possibly another man having a bath from a bucket.

There have, of course, been many improvements in recent years and conditions on the newer ships are better, but progress is slow. Speaking of conditions in this Port, ships of most other nationalities compare more favourably than British ships in planning and fitting of quarters for the crews.

Considerable publicity has been given recently to the need for improvement of conditions under which seamen live on board. The general cause of slowness of progress at the present time appears to be the difficulty of improving these conditions in existing ships. Whether this difficulty is insurmountable is a matter of opinion.

Unfortunately, there is frequently a lack of interest on the part of the crews themselves about the condition of their accommodation.

The manner in which meals are provided for the crews is typical of the unsatisfactory conditions. There are frequently no separate messrooms and the food has usually to be collected by the seamen from the galley amidships and carried aft to their sleeping quarters. There is often complete lack of any satisfactory arrangements for the storage of food.

The standard of bedding which must be supplied to British seamen consists apparently of one mattress, a pillow and blankets. Consequently no mattress cover or pillow slip are provided in many ships, and it is quite impossible to expect the seamen even to attempt to keep their bedding clean.

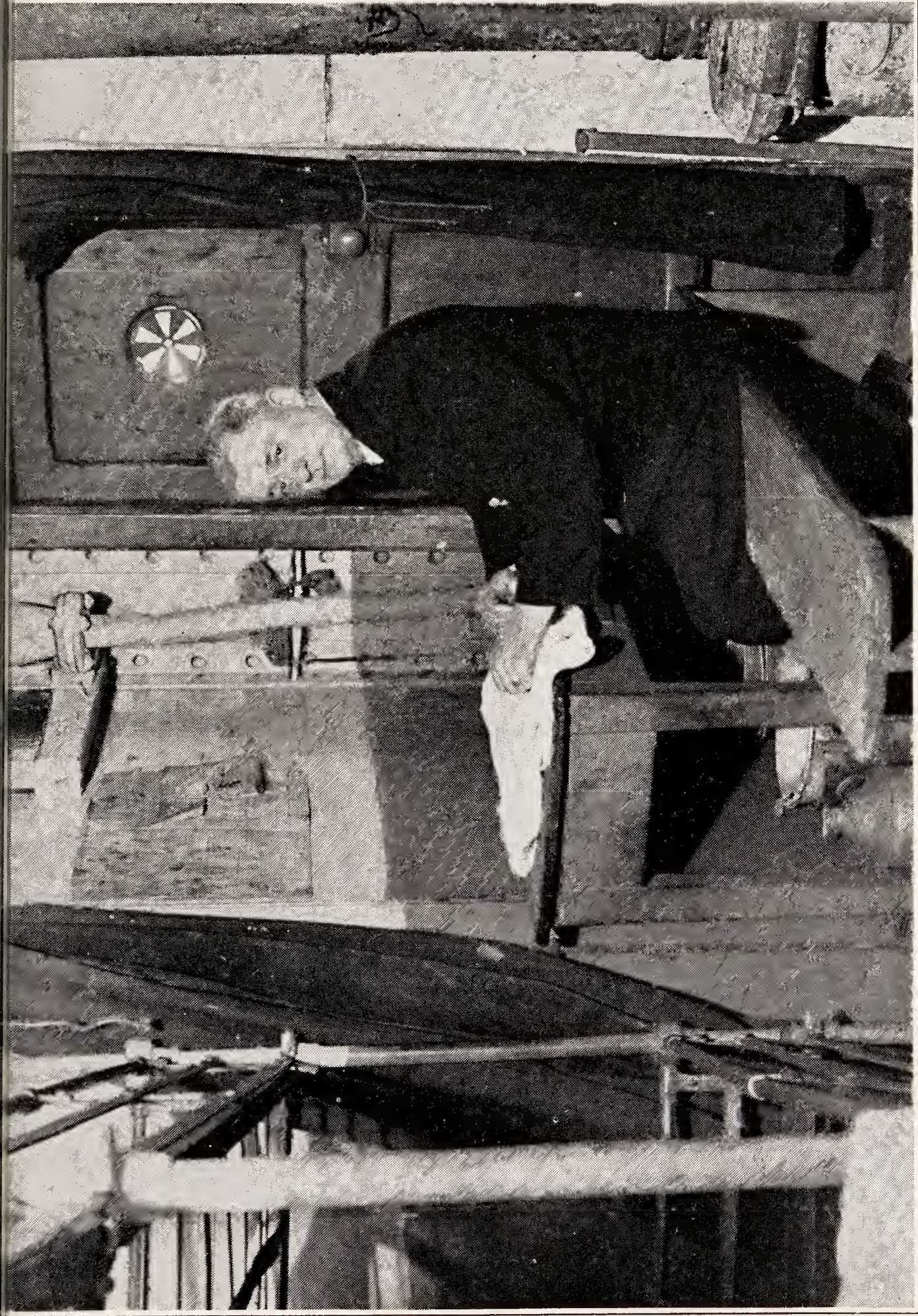
In new vessels baths and showers are required to be fitted for hot and cold water, but since the regulation makes no mention of fresh water, frequently only sea water is supplied and consequently they are often not used.

Owing to the attitude that it is impossible to improve standards of accommodation on existing ships, conditions on many foreign-going vessels and on the majority of coasting vessels have not improved materially during the last 20 years.

In the last 30 or 40 years there have been frequent references made to the standard of accommodation for crews. In 1902 Dr. W. Collingridge of the Port of London, wrote that the sanitary state of ships was 50 years behind that of the houses of the country. In 1911 the Council of the Royal Sanitary Institute urged the Board of Trade to require the thorough revision of the regulations regarding crews' quarters of all new vessels built under their supervision. The Association of Port Health Authorities has over a number of years repeatedly concerned itself with the improvements urgently needed. The Association is anxious that expert medical advice should be available when plans of new vessels are being considered for approval by the Board of Trade.

International Seafarers' Charter.

Recently representatives of officers' and seamen's societies of a dozen mercantile maritime countries set out demands for improved conditions for seamen in what is known as the International Seafarers' Charter. This Charter was submitted to the Maritime



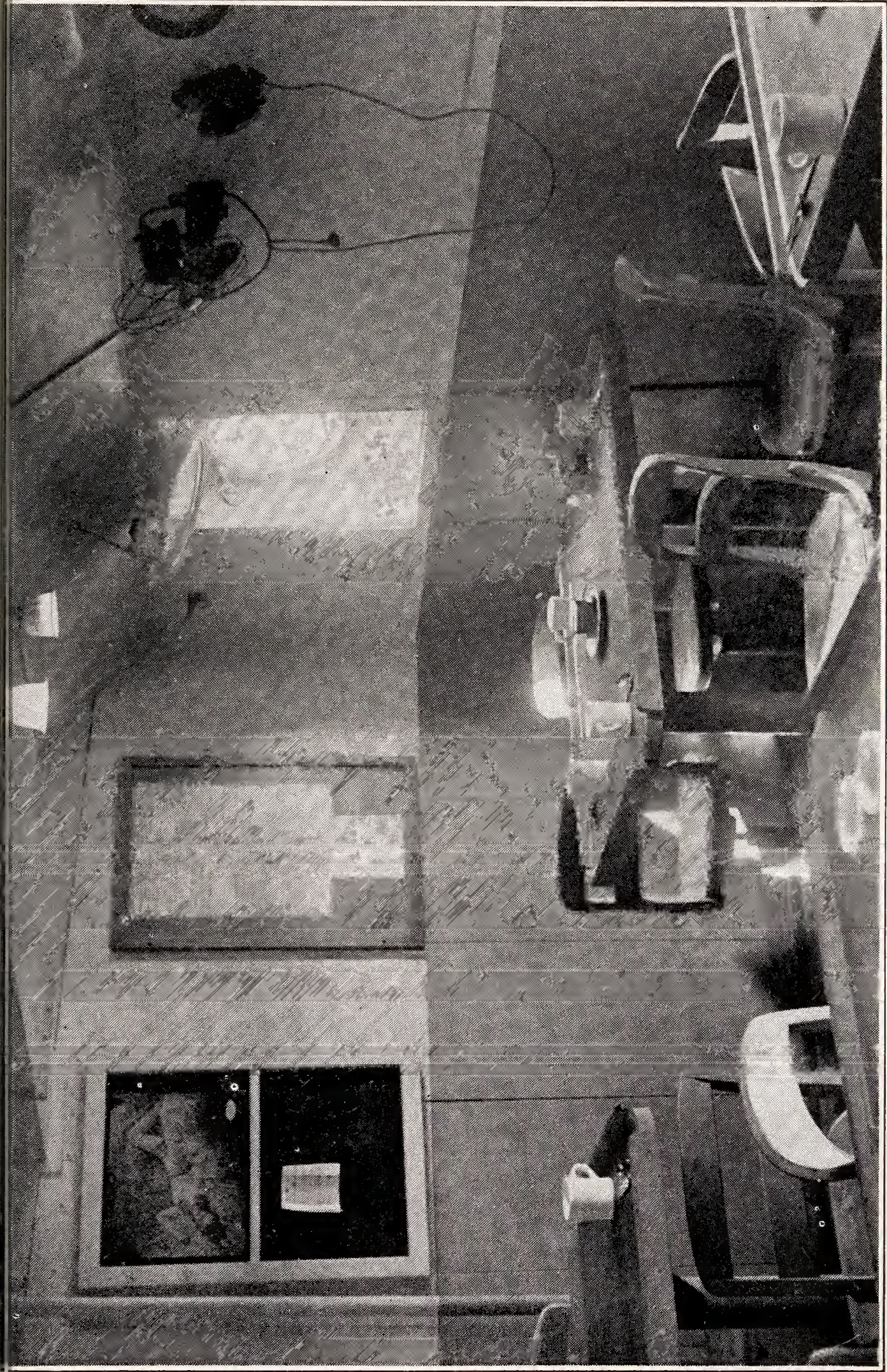
BRITISH COASTER BUILT 1919. (Registered Tonnage 424.)

This photograph illustrates the meal table for four men, and the only form of seating provided. Another corner of the all-purpose forecastle illustrated in Photograph facing previous page.

Commission of the International Labour Office and has been adopted by them. I am setting out below various sections which affect the health and comfort of the seamen and which I consider would materially improve their conditions :—

96. Far too little attention has been given to the accommodation of ships crews, although admittedly progress has been made in this direction recently. The poor quality of crews' quarters made itself doubly felt in wartime. There have been numerous conflicts and many changes have had to be made to make the things just tolerable. The unhealthy conditions aboard deter many from choosing or continuing a career at sea.
97. It may be expected that modern ideas about accommodation and hygiene will also have their effects in the shipping industry ; that, on the one hand everything will be avoided making for discomfort and uncleanness, and that on the other hand it will be borne in mind, in designing and building ships that seafarers spend a considerable portion of their lives there. For that reason we think it would be desirable if among other things, seafarers' organisations were consulted in connection with plans for building and converting ships in so far as character and the situation of crews' quarters are concerned.
98. The following recommended standards many of which exist already in more advanced countries are regarded by the seafarers as the minima for all new ships ; they should as far as practicable also be introduced in ships already afloat.
99. All living quarters should as far as practicable be situated amidships.
104. In all ships over 1,200 tons gross the crew should be housed in two-men cabins ; in smaller ships over 400 tons gross not more than four men should share a cabin. The free floor space should be at least 12 sq. ft. per person.
105. There should be a ventilated full length locker for every member of the crew. Lockers should be placed in the cabins.
106. Wooden bunks should be entirely eliminated. To counteract vermin, furniture should be of plastics and " non-sweating " metals such as chromium tubing. A reading lamp should be provided over each bunk.

107. Bed and bedding should be supplied by the owners to all officers and men. The beds should be provided with spring and rubber mattresses, which are expensive but very durable. This type of mattress is also vermin-proof and can be used for life-saving purposes, as it will keep a man afloat. Further, each bed should be provided with three blankets, two sheets, pillow, pillow slip and bed cover. Sheets and pillow slips should be changed fortnightly.
108. Soap and towels should be provided to all officers and ratings.
109. Owners should be responsible for all laundry expenses of officers and men, including their personal belongings.
110. Crews' quarters should be distinct and apart from messrooms. All ships over 400 tons gross should have messrooms for deck and engine room personnel, and ships over 3,000 tons gross or with a catering personnel of four or more persons, a special mess for the catering personnel. Messrooms should be adjacent to the galley and where possible with service hatch to obviate the carrying of food for long distances. All messrooms should be fitted with filtered drinking water syphons.
111. Eating utensils should be provided by the owners. Plates, cups, etc., should be of china or heat-proof glass.
112. Cabins and messrooms, both of officers and men should be heated and ventilated through a system of conditioned air. Ventilation should not depend solely on portholes and fans. The porthole should be big enough to allow a man to escape through it.
113. To facilitate cleaning of living quarters, messrooms, etc., and to keep them free from vermin, bulkheads should be covered with plastics and floors with steelite compositions, instead of wood. Floors should have rounded off edges to avoid crevices.
115. Smokerooms with recreation and library facilities should be provided for both officers and ratings.
116. Ships over 400 tons gross should have washrooms with fixed wash basins, shower baths and bathroom for all departments. Wash basins should be laid on with fresh water. When the steam boiler is on, water should be available in washrooms and bathrooms.



SECTION OF CREW'S MESSROOM ON AN AMERICAN-BUILT CARGO SHIP OF POLISH NATIONALITY.
(Registered Tonnage of Ship 1001.)

ILLUSTRATING A WELL-EQUIPPED SEPARATE MESSROOM.

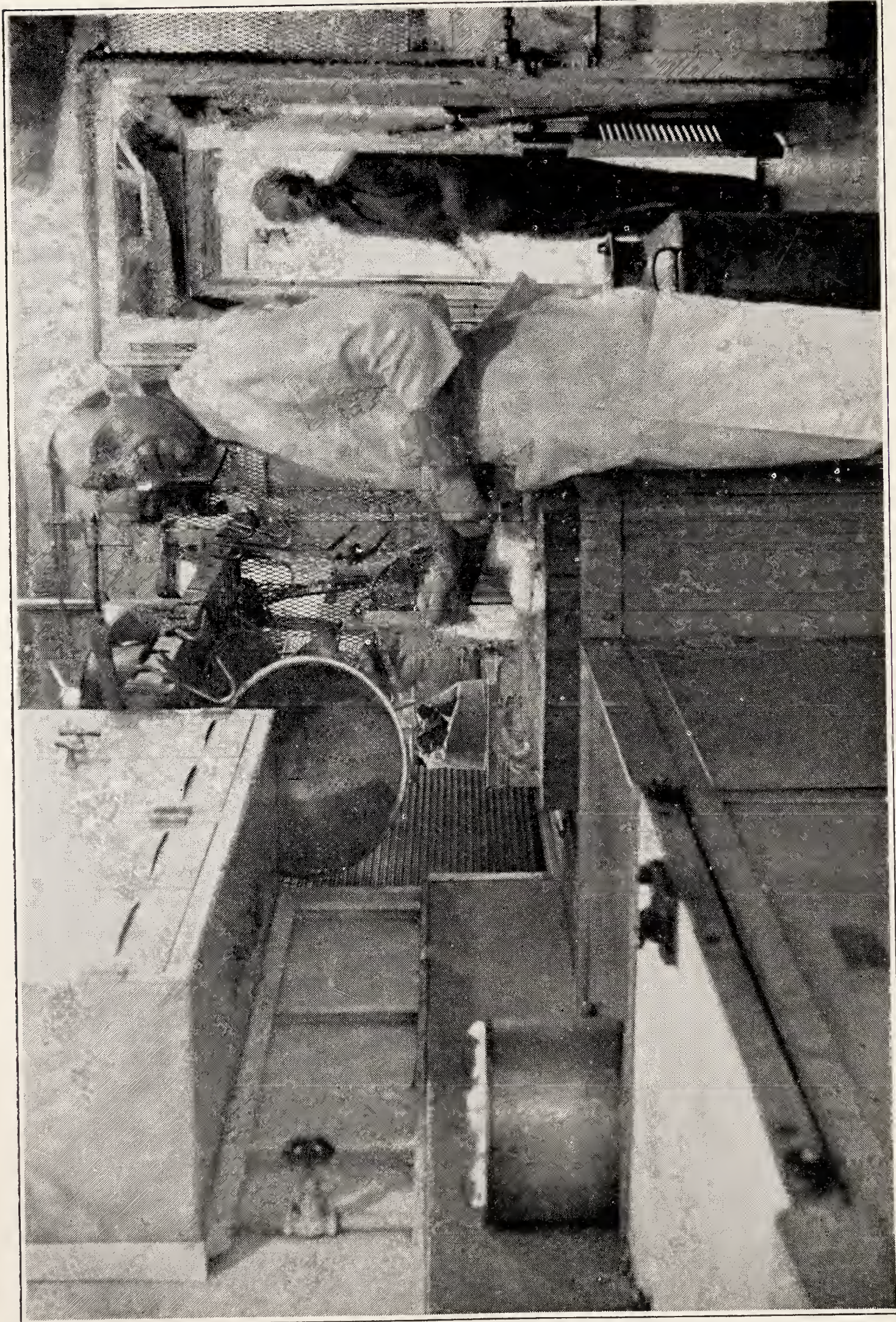
117. W.C. accommodation should be separate from washrooms and bathrooms and should be fitted with urinal porcelain stalls. There should be at least one w.c. for every eight men and a minimum of two for officers. W.C. accommodation for radio officers should be situated near their service post. Proper toilet paper should be provided.
118. All ships should have a small laundry with electric washing machine and adjacent drying-room, to enable men to do their own laundry and the catering staff that of the ship on long voyages. The drying-room also to be used for men to dry their clothes when coming wet from watch.
119. Walls and floors should be tiled in all toilet and laundry accommodation. All bathrooms and toilets, as well as mess and sleeping quarters, should be kept clean by the messman of the department concerned and should be inspected daily by the chief steward or master.
120. Ships with a crew of not less than 13 should have a special sick bay with at least one bed. The sick bay must be well lighted and ventilated, situated amidships, and must not be used for any other purpose.
129. All ships should be provided with up-to-date store-rooms and refrigerators, galley properly equipped with up-to-date devices, cooking utensils or aluminium or other non-flaking material.
92. Every foreign-going ship shall carry one messroom steward. If the number of ratings in the engine and deck departments exceed 6 in each, one messman shall be carried for each department. If the number of ratings in the two departments is less than 12 together, one joint messman shall be carried.
63. The catering and cleaning services are of primary importance, both for the welfare of the crew and the atmosphere aboard. The personnel concerned should have a suitable training, and the proper performance of these duties including the cleaning of crews' quarters, should be the responsibility of the Chief Steward, acting under the instructions of the Captain. This means that the messman of the deck and engine room departments (who should be at least 18 years of age) should work under the authority of the Chief Steward.

61. Everyone should pass a medical examination before going to sea. This shall apply particularly in the case of trimmers and firemen, whose arduous work might have serious consequences upon their health for the rest of their life if they have not the bodily strength necessary for performing their duties in various climates. Medical examination should be repeated at regular intervals; seafarers to have the right to appeal against the decision of a doctor, in which case re-examination by a medical referee will take place. The medical referee shall not be in the employ of a shipping company.

I would make the following suggestions as to additional action to improve conditions of British vessels :—

1. Each ship should be required to keep a Sanitary Log open to inspection by officers of the Port Health Authorities, or better still deposited with the Port Health Authorities on arrival. This log should provide for the recording by the Port Health Inspectors of the sanitary condition of the vessel, and any defects requiring attention. It should also provide for a report by the Master of any action taken to correct these defects. Such a log would be of enormous help to Port Health Authorities particularly where the stay in Port is short, and it would permit of continuity of action between various Port Health Authorities. The sanitary log in the case of coasters could be extended and used instead of the Deratisation Certificate which the Association of Port Health Authorities suggests should become compulsory for coasters.
2. A real endeavour should be made to fix some form of minimum standard of accommodation, etc., in existing ships. This should include a minimum standard of cubic space, ventilation, lighting, water supply, separate messrooms, wash-places and equipment. Port Health Authorities should be empowered to inspect ship's provisions and the condition of their storage. The conditions of storage in some of the coasting vessels I have inspected were dreadful. Many coastal vessels are without any place in which to store food except small cupboards in the fore-castle.
3. Control should be exercised over the design and equipping of the galley and its position. In a ship of about 4,000 tons net register which visited this port on her maiden voyage





SECTION OF GALLEY ON AMERICAN-BUILT CARGO SHIP OF POLISH NATIONALITY.

recently, the galley was on the fore part of the fidley just forward of the forecastle. The port and starboard doors opened directly on to the open deck with no protection. In heavy weather it must have been a hazardous undertaking to carry meals through either of these doors.

4. Bedding should be provided in reasonably adequate quantities and not merely one pillow, one mattress and three blankets with no linen.
5. Standard specifications should be prepared for items of equipment covering bathrooms, water closets, wash-places, pantries, clothes lockers, bunks and mattresses, and this would ensure that defects of equipment would not occur owing to the poor quality of the equipment supplied.
6. The occasional practice of closing down all electric lighting in Port after working hours should be prohibited. In a ship I visited last December, I saw a typical example of this. The electric lighting was shut down at 5 p.m. when the men finished work and the only method of lighting for the rest of the night was one oil lamp in the sailors' sleeping-room and two in the firemen's room. In neither place was it possible to read, and messrooms, wash-places, water closets and approaches to the accommodation were in total darkness. The conditions on this vessel were the subject of considerable comment from the crew of a Canadian vessel lying alongside.

School Medical Service

REPORT OF THE SENIOR MEDICAL OFFICER.

DR. T. H. HARRISON.

General. The shortage of medical officers and dental surgeons continued during 1944, and in consequence the School Medical Service again had to be run on restricted lines as in the three previous years.

The numbers of children in the city again increased, but much of the increase occurred in the last few months of the year with the return of many of the evacuated children.

When the schools closed in December for the Christmas vacation, the numbers on the rolls of schools in the city were as follows :—

Elementary Schools	...	...	...	...	17,354
Day Open Air Schools for Delicate Children	...				141
Day Special Schools for Mentally Defective Children	...	...	...	...	241
Central Schools	...	...	...	...	1,000
Junior Technical School	...	...	...	...	319
Secondary Schools for Boys	...	...	...	...	638
Secondary Schools for Girls	...	...	...	...	692
					<hr/> 20,385 <hr/>

In addition there were 1,180 unaccompanied children still evacuated :—

231 elementary school children evacuated individually.

2 special (M.D.) school children evacuated to the Residential Special School.

910 secondary school children evacuated in school groups.

37 secondary school children evacuated individually.

There was also an unknown number of children evacuated with their parents.

Staff. The Senior School Medical Officer, who was appointed Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer in May, 1943, continued to combine his duties in the School Medical Service with those in the Public Health Department. One assistant medical officer was engaged whole

time and one approximately half-time on school medical duties, and for the last few weeks of the year a further medical officer was engaged part time. The total time given by all medical officers was, however, only equivalent to that of two whole time medical officers on the average throughout the year. The dental staff consisted of two whole time dental surgeons, assisted by two attendants.

Ten trained nurses, two of them possessing Health Visitor's qualifications, were engaged whole time, and various Nursing Auxiliaries from the Civil Defence Casualty Services assisted them in a part-time capacity until the Casualty Services were reduced in November, when two temporary whole-time School Clinic Attendants (or Nursing Assistants) were appointed. Three masseuses were engaged whole time at the Orthopædic Clinic.

The part-time Specialists continued to attend at the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat, and Orthopædic Clinics as previously. A part-time Speech Therapist was also employed.

Medical Inspection. All new Entrants to Elementary Schools received a full routine medical inspection, but it was only possible to inspect a small proportion of the Leavers with the limited medical staff available. Some of the Entrants to Higher Schools were however inspected.

The total number of these inspections was 3,068, compared with 4,147 in 1943 and 3,063 in 1942.

In addition, 15,102 Special Inspections and Re-inspections were carried out by the medical officers at schools and clinics, the greater proportion at clinics. These include 212 special examinations of defective children, 59 of whom were certified for admission to Special Schools, and 7 found unfit to attend any school.

RESULTS OF ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

2860 elementary school children were examined at routine medical inspections, and 882 or 30.9% were found to have one or more defects requiring treatment. This compares with 30.9% in 1943 and 28.1% in 1942.

The numbers of the various defects found to require treatment, and the numbers requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment, and also the numbers of each defect per 1,000 children inspected are given in the following table :—

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, 1944.

Disease.					Number of defects requiring treatment.		Number of defects requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	
					No.	Per 1,000 children inspected.	No.	Per 1,000 children inspected.
Skin	{	Ringworm—Scalp	1	0.35	0	0		
		" —Body	12	4.20	2	0.70		
		Scabies	41	14.33	5	1.75		
		Impetigo	19	6.64	1	0.35		
		Other diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	52	18.18	36	12.60		
		Total Skin Defects	125	43.70	44	15.40		
Eye	{	Blepharitis	15	5.25	5	1.75		
		Conjunctivitis	11	3.85	4	1.40		
		Keratitis	1	0.35	0	0		
		Corneal Opacities	0	0	0	0		
		Other conditions (excluding Defective Vision and Squint)	13	4.54	10	3.50		
		Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	29	10.14	20	7.00		
		Squint	62	21.68	42	14.70		
		Total Eye Defects	131	45.81	81	28.30		
Ear	{	Defective Hearing	11	3.85	2	0.70		
		Otitis Media	17	5.94	5	1.75		
		Other Ear Diseases	17	5.94	3	1.05		
		Total Ear Defects	45	15.73	10	3.50		
Nose and Throat	{	Chronic Tonsilitis only	157	54.89	327	114.33		
		Adenoids only	46	16.08	31	10.84		
		Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	134	46.85	58	20.28		
		Other Conditions	14	4.90	45	15.75		
		Total Nose and Throat Defects	351	122.72	461	161.20		
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)			64	22.37	230	80.41		

ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, 1944

—continued

Disease.					Number of defects requiring treatment.		Number of defects requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	
					No.	Per 1,000 children inspected.	No.	Per 1,000 children inspected.
Defective Speech					7	2.45	36	12.60
Heart and Circulation	{	Heart Disease—Organic ...	12	4.20	14	4.90		
		" " —Functional...	6	2.10	29	10.14		
		Anæmia	39	13.62	55	19.25		
		Total Heart and Circulation Defects	57	19.92	98	34.29		
Lungs	{	Bronchitis	38	13.28	31	10.84		
		Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	13	4.54	15	5.25		
		Total Lung Defects	51	17.82	46	16.09		
Tuber- culosis	{	Pulmonary—Definite ...	0	0	0	0		
		" —Suspected ...	6	2.10	5	1.75		
		Glands	9	3.15	12	4.20		
		Bones and Joints	0	0	0	0		
		Skin	0	0	0	0		
		Other forms	1	0.35	0	0		
{ Total Tuberculous Defects		16	5.60	17	5.95			
Nervous System	{	Epilepsy	2	0.70	3	1.05		
		Chorea	1	0.35	0	0		
		Other conditions	5	1.75	25	8.75		
		Total Defects of Nervous System	8	2.80	28	9.80		
Deformi- ties	{	Rickets	14	4.90	18	6.30		
		Spinal Curvature	32	11.20	7	2.45		
		Others	141	49.30	66	23.07		
		Total Deformities	187	65.40	91	31.82		
Other Defects and Diseases (excluding defects of nutrition, uncleanliness and dental diseases)					39	13.62	61	21.32
Grand Total of All Defects					1099	384.26	1203	420.63

It will be seen that out of 1,099 defects found to require treatment, 351, or roughly a third, were defects of the nose and

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throat, mainly chronic tonsillitis with and without adenoids; 187 were deformities, mainly flat feet, 131 eye defects and 125 skin defects. These four groups accounted for 794 or over two-thirds of all the defects found to require treatment.

The remaining 305 defects include 64 of enlarged cervical glands (non-tuberculous), a condition frequently accompanying chronic tonsillitis, 57 of anæmia and heart disease, 51 of bronchitis and other non-tuberculous lung diseases and 45 ear defects, including 11 of defective hearing and 17 of running ears.

Of the 1,203 defects requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment, 461 were defects of the nose and throat, mainly chronic tonsillitis, and another 230 were enlarged cervical glands. These two groups accounted for more than half of those requiring to be kept under observation.

Inspections by School Nurses. As it was impossible, on account of shortage of medical staff, to give every child in the Entrant,

Intermediate and Leaver groups a full routine medical inspection, all children were again surveyed at school by a nurse at least once during the year. The surveys were carried out on the same lines as in 1943, and were similar to those previously done by the medical officers. The nurses also again tested at school the vision of all the older children. Those found to have defects were referred to the medical officers at the clinics.

The usual routine cleanliness inspections at the schools were continued by the nurses, as also was the normal work of following up of children with defects.

The following is a summary of the work of the nurses :—

Number of surveys carried out at schools	...	20,534
Number of vision tests carried out at schools	...	13,688
Number of children referred to the medical officers		1,559
Number of uncleanness inspections made at schools	... ..	150,436
Number of individual children found unclean	...	2,017
Number of children cleansed by the nurses	...	588
Number of children specially inspected at school for infectious disease	... ..	412
Average number of visits made to every school during the year	... ..	27.7
Number of visits to homes for following up defects, etc.	... ..	4,330

Medical Treatment.

A. Minor Ailment Clinics.

A trained nurse attended daily throughout the year at each of the six minor ailment treatment clinics and the scabies clinic. A nurse also visited the Open Air School daily and each of the Special Schools for Mentally Defective children several times a week for the treatment of minor ailments.

A medical officer attended at each clinic for two or three sessions a week.

Seven thousand one hundred and thirty-seven new cases were treated at these clinics during the year, as follows :—

Ringworm of Scalp	...	...	...	...	59
Ringworm of Body	...	...	...	...	170
Scabies	...	...	...	...	753
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	282
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	...	279
Minor injuries	...	...	...	...	1,576
Ear diseases	...	...	...	...	261
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	3,568
Total					7,137

Twenty-nine of the 59 cases of ringworm of the scalp received X-Ray Treatment by a Specialist.

The total number of attendances made by children for the treatment of minor ailments was 83,539.

B. Eye Clinic.

The School Oculist attended at the Eye Clinic for three sessions a week on the average throughout the year, and 1,427 new cases were treated. Spectacles were prescribed for 774 children and supplied to 647, and 170 spectacles were repaired ; 2,328 attendances were made by children.

During the year arrangements were made with the Plymouth Royal Eye Infirmary for orthoptic treatment to be given to cases of squint when recommended by the School Oculist.

C. *Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.*

The Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist attended at the clinic once a week, and 823 new cases were seen. 258 children received operative treatment for tonsils and adenoids at the City Hospital under the Authority's scheme on the recommendation of the specialist, and 104 children received other forms of treatment at the clinic; 1,006 attendances were made at the clinic during the year.

D. *Orthopædic Clinic.*

The orthopædic clinic was open whole time throughout the year. 515 new cases were seen by the Senior School Medical Officer who referred 45 of them to the Orthopædic Specialist who attended the clinic once a month. In addition 776 old cases were seen, including 176 seen by the specialist. 18,760 attendances were made by children at the clinic.

A large percentage of the children attending the clinic were referred for flat feet and poor posture. Both these defects were associated frequently with general debility and most of these children were given a course of general ultra-violet light treatment before being given any remedial exercises. This reduced considerably the period of treatment required to correct the defects and also improved the general condition of the children. In addition, all cases of flat feet were given a course of faradism.

The following is a summary of the orthopædic defects treated :—

Flat feet, valgus ankles, etc.	248
Poor posture, kyphosis, lordosis, scoliosis, etc. ...	176
Genu valgum and varum	101
Hallux valgus, hammer toes, overriding toes ...	20
Infantile paralysis	4
Facial paralysis	1
Erb's paralysis	2
Hemiplegia	4
Paraplegia	1
Torticollis	1
Talipes	3
Other congenital deformities or asymetries ...	3
Other conditions	12

Children were also referred to the clinic for ultra-violet light treatment for anæmia, general debility, bronchitis, asthma, adenitis, including tuberculosis adenitis, dermatitis, eczema, impetigo, alopecia and other conditions, and 197 defects were treated.

The ultra-violet light lamp was also used with a Wood's glass for the diagnosis of ringworm of the scalp.

Twenty-eight cases of warts were treated by diathermy.

E. Speech Training Classes at Clinics.

Classes were held twice a week during term time throughout the year by the Speech Therapist at three of the school clinics. Separate classes were held for stammerers and children with other defects of speech. 69 children were treated during the year, 35 of them stammerers and 34 with other speech defects, three of the latter being due to cleft palate. 16 children completed treatment during the year and were discharged as cured and 5 left school before completing treatment.

One or two children in many infant schools would benefit by special speech training, but they are too young to travel to the clinic alone, and for various reasons their parents are unable to bring them. It is impracticable at present, however, to arrange for the alternative of the speech therapist visiting all schools where there are one or two children requiring treatment.

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

With the limited dental staff available it was only found possible to make a routine dental inspection at school of 7,703 children during the year. 1,108 other children were, however, inspected at the clinics as Specials. 6,369 or 72.3% of the children inspected were found to require treatment. 4,026 or 63.2% of those requiring treatment were actually treated, and 3,607 fillings, 10,103 extractions, and 570 other operations were carried out, with 3,059 administrations of general anæsthetics.

Nutrition and Milk and Meals.

There was again a decrease in the percentage of children found at routine medical inspections to be of subnormal nutrition. Only 13.08% of the children examined were considered by the medical officers to have subnormal nutrition in 1944, compared with 18.69% in 1943. The

number of children examined at routine inspections was, however, only a comparatively small percentage of the total number of children attending school, and the majority of them were Entrants to school life, but there does not appear to have been any deterioration in the remainder of the children attending school, in spite of over five years of war. This satisfactory position is undoubtedly mainly due to the priority allowances of milk and other foods for children from birth onwards and to the provision of milk and meals at school.

When the last return of the year was made to the Ministry of Education on the provision of milk and meals at school 82.6% of all children in attendance at elementary schools and 73.8% at higher schools were receiving milk at school and approximately two out of every three were receiving two-thirds of a pint of milk or more daily. 18% of the children in attendance at elementary schools and 21.6% at higher schools were receiving a mid-day dinner at school.

All milk supplied to schools was pasteurised milk and the supply had been approved by the Medical Officer of Health.

Almost all the mid-day meals were supplied by the Emergency Catering Department of the Corporation and were cooked at Central Kitchens and delivered to the schools in containers. The meals were inspected regularly throughout the year and their food value calculated from the returns sent by the Catering Department of the amounts of food stuffs used. The meals were found to be rather monotonous on the average, and the two courses were not always suitably arranged, and advantage was not always taken of fruits and vegetables in season. The calorie, protein, and fat values of the meals improved, however, during the year. The arrangements for the distribution of the meals were rather unsatisfactory as the meals arrived at some schools much too early in the morning and were liable to deteriorate before being served. The most satisfactory method of supplying meals is to prepare, cook and serve them on the premises at each school. This has always been done at the Open Air School and the Education Committee has now adopted this principle for the supply of meals in the future. The change over will gradually be carried out, but from April 1st, 1945, the Education Committee will supply and distribute meals from Central Kitchens under their own control and under the direct supervision of the School Meals Organiser.

**Special
Schools.**

The children attending the Open Air School and the two Special Schools for Mentally Defective Children in the city were kept under constant supervision by the medical and nursing staff and minor ailments were treated on the premises of each school, a special room fitted as a clinic being available at the Open Air School and at one of the schools for mentally defective children. The evacuated Special School for the Deaf at South Brent and the evacuated Special School for Mentally Defective Children at Budleigh Salterton were visited quarterly by a medical officer who examined the children at each visit. Medical treatment at these evacuated schools was given by local medical practitioners when required.

Remand Home. The Remand Home was visited at least once a week by a nurse and at less frequent intervals by a medical officer. All children were medically examined on admittance and just before discharge and at other times when required, and any necessary medical attention was given. The premises were inspected regularly and the dietary kept under supervision.

**Infectious
Diseases.**

There was no serious outbreak of any infectious disease in any school in the city during 1944, and the general incidence of diphtheria and scarlet fever in children of school age remained low and in the case of diphtheria was the lowest since 1940, only 103 cases of diphtheria in school children being notified. Whilst the 138 notified cases of scarlet fever in school children were more than in the previous two years, the cases were generally of a mild type.

Diphtheria immunisation was carried out in schools as in previous years.

Scabies again showed a considerable decrease in school children and the number of new cases reported during 1944 was only slightly over 50% of that in 1942. The actual numbers of new cases found were 1,704 in 1942, 1,377 in 1943 and 912 in 1944.

282 cases of impetigo were treated in 1944 compared with 265 in 1943, but the number of other skin diseases treated dropped from 382 in 1943 to 279 in 1944.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS

TABLE I.
MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING
PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

(1) No. of Inspections :—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	2484
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	342
Total							2860

(2) No. of other Routine Inspections ... Nil.
Grand Total ... 2860

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

No of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 15,099

TABLE II.
CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN
INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE
GROUPS.

<i>Number of Children Inspected.</i>	<i>A. (Excellent).</i>		<i>B. (Normal).</i>		<i>C. (Slightly Sub-Normal).</i>		<i>D. (Bad)</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>
2860	368	12.87	2118	74.05	374	13.08	—	—

TABLE III.

GROUP I. TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS (excluding uncleanness).

Total Number of Defects treated or under treatment
during the year under the Authority's Scheme ... 7137

GROUP II. TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme.</i>
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including Squint) ...	1909
Other defect or disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	419
Total ...	<hr/> 2328
Number of Children for whom Spectacles were :—	
(a) Prescribed	774
(b) Obtained	647

GROUP III. TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme.</i>
Received Operative Treatment	258
Received other forms of Treatment	104
Total number treated	<hr/> 362

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1)	Number of Children inspected by the Dentist :—						
	(a)	Routine Age Groups	...	...	...	...	7703
	(b)	Specials	...	...	...	...	1108
	(c)	Total (Routine and Specials)	...	...	...	...	8811
(2)	Number found to require treatment						6369
(3)	Number actually treated						4026
(4)	Attendances made by children for treatment						7813
(5)	Half-days devoted to—						
	Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	59
	Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	1009
	TOTAL						1068
(6)	Fillings—						
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	3514
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	93
	TOTAL						3607
(7)	Extractions—						
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	1866
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	8237
	TOTAL						10103
(8)	Administrations of general anæsthetic for extractions						3059
(9)	Other Operations—						
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	513
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	57
	TOTAL						570

TABLE V.

VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i) Average number of visits per school made by the School Nurses or other authorised persons	27.7
(ii) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses or other authorised persons	150,436
(iii) Number of individual children found unclean ...	2017
(iv) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921 ...	588
(v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	Nil
(b) Under School Attendance Bye-Laws	Nil

TABLE VI.

BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN.

Number of totally or almost totally Blind and Deaf children who are **not** at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs. The return should relate to all such children including evacuees resident in the Authority's area.

	1. At a Public Elementary School	2. At an Institu- tion other than a Special School	3. At no School or Institution
Blind Children	—	—	—
Deaf Children	—	—	—

TABLE VII.
SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF.

<i>Name of Officer.</i>	<i>Proportion of whole time devoted to</i>	
	<i>School Medical Service.</i>	<i>Public Health.</i>
S.M.O. Dr. T. Peirson	2/11	9/11
A.S.M.O.s.		
Senior		
Dr. T. H. Harrison	4/11	7/11
Assistants.		
Dr. Christina Hargreaves	11/11	—
Dr. H. M. Teitze (Temporary) ...	5/11	6/11
Dr. D. Buckby (Temporary).		
Part-time as from 13.11.44 ...	4/11	2/11
Senior Dentist	—	—
Dentists.		
Mr. E. Williams	11/11	—
Mr. J. F. Gray (Released from Army as from 11.4.44)	11/11	—
Mr. C. G. Saxon (resigned 15.4.44) ...	11/11	—

SCHOOL NURSING STAFF
(excluding Specialist Nurses such as Orthopædic Nurses).

	<i>Number of Officers.</i>	<i>Aggregate of time given to S.M.S. work in terms of whole time officers.</i>
School Nurses ...	10	10 whole time.
District Nurses ...	—	—
Nursing Assistants ...	2	2 whole time as from 13.11.44.
Dental Attendants ...	2	2 whole time.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING HIGHER SCHOOLS.

TABLE I.

A. Number of Routine Medical Inspections	...	...	205
B. Number of Special Inspections	...	...	3
Grand Total	...	...	208

TABLE II.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR,

Number of Children Inspected	A.		B.		C. (Slightly Sub-Normal)		D. (Bad)	
	(Excellent)		(Normal)					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
205	37	18.0	160	78.0	8	4.0	—	—

HANDICAPPED PUPILS, 31.12.44.

EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL PUPILS.

In Residential Special Schools	...	...	...	30
In Day Special Schools	...	...	...	247
Awaiting admission to Residential Special Schools	...			9
Recommended for Dull or Backward Classes		43

BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PUPILS.

In Residential Special Schools	11
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DEAF AND PARTIALLY DEAF PUPILS.

In Residential Special Schools	5
In Day Special Schools	17

DELICATE AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

In Residential Special Schools	...	...	...	1
In Day Open Air Schools	...	...	...	141
Awaiting admission to Mount Gold Hospital	...	...		2
Awaiting admission to Residential School		1

EPILEPTIC PUPILS.

In Residential Special Schools	3
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HEART CASES.

Awaiting admission to Residential School		1
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